

Ministers refuse deal with Ulster strikers

With the "loyalist" strike in Northern Ireland in its seventh day, the Government declared last night that it would not be intimidated or blackmailed into abandoning the constitutional arrangements in the province.

A statement issued by the Northern Ireland Office after Mr Wilson and senior ministers had heard a report from Mr Rees, Secretary of State, said that

the Government could not negotiate with the Ulster Workers' Council. If more troops were needed they were ready to go at short notice.

Mr Rees said after the meeting that the Government was not seeking a confrontation, but "we shall counter the actions of those who are seeking to destroy the province".

In Belfast, the strike tightened its grip [Robert Fisk writes]. A trade union attempt to march its men back to work, led by Len Murray, TUC general secretary, failed. The union men were abused, spat on and pelted with rotten vegetables as soldiers and policemen tried to protect them. Hundreds of people queued for food and milk.

Barricades stay after unions' back-to-work march fails

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

The Government made a firm declaration last night that it would not be intimidated or blackmailed into departing from the present constitutional arrangements in Northern Ireland.

After Mr Wilson and other senior ministers had reviewed the situation in Ulster, and received a first-hand report from Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, about the latest developments in the general strike, the Northern Ireland Office issued the following declaration:

"The Government will continue with its duty of preserving the life of Northern Ireland and helping to maintain essential services. The Government will not be intimidated or blackmailed into departing from the Constitution Act or from its avowed intention of proceeding with the Sunningdale agreement. It will not negotiate with the Ulster Workers' Council. Ministers reaffirmed their determination at today's meeting to restore normal life and conditions to the province. The meeting discussed the situation on the ground. The Northern Ireland Office learned that the main access roads in Belfast are open. There were some road blocks in Belfast and other places.

Some Protestant paramilitary organizations are at work creating hazards to free travel and intimidating those who wish to work and live a normal life. The security forces in Northern Ireland have already been increased in numbers to deal with this situation. If further troops are required they are ready to move at short notice.

Mr Rees said after the meeting of ministers: "We are not seeking a confrontation but we shall counter the actions of those who are seeking to destroy the province".

Among MPs at Westminster this serious declaration by the Government is taken as a warning that stronger security measures will be adopted within the next 24 hours if there is not a return to normal conditions.

Robert Fisk writes from Belfast: With the British Government and the leaders of the "loyalist" anti-Sunningdale strike in



A woman grappling with Mr Andy Barr, president of the shipbuilding and engineering workers' union, as he walked beside Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, during the back-to-work march in Belfast yesterday.

Northern Ireland gambling for ever higher stakes in their efforts to break each other's political will, members of the Northern Ireland Executive believe that the Sunningdale agreement has never been in so much danger of breakdown.

Pro-Executive Unionists in the Assembly are openly suggesting that the powers of the Council of Ireland (the intergovernmental body proposed under Sunningdale) should be sacrificed to appease the strikers.

Throughout yesterday the strike, in its seventh day, tightened its grip.

While Mr Wilson in the House of Commons was dismissing the strike as "sectarian", a description regretted by several

Unionist politicians in Ulster because they believe the strike has much popular support, the workers' council blandly announced that it was stopping all petrol and oil distribution.

Hundreds of people had to queue for food, milk and social security payments in Belfast: much of the province had to endure power cuts of 12 hours, almost all industry remained at a standstill, and gangs of youths continued to man dozens of barricades around Protestant areas of the city.

The position adopted by Mr Rees, who has repeated his refusal to negotiate with the strikers, is beginning to look distinctly uncomfortable. Those ministers who had hoped that

the trade unions could break the strike were disillusioned in the morning when a union attempt to march its men back to work in east Belfast, led by Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, failed miserably.

The trade union men were abused, spat on and pelted with rotten vegetables and soldiers and policemen tried to ensure their safety.

To the annoyance of his political colleagues, Mr Roy Bradford, Minister of the Environment in the Executive, said that some dialogue must be started between the strikers and the Government.

Mr Rees, he said, faced "a grave and bitter choice", but many people in his own constituency of East Belfast apparently

supported the aims of the strike.

Mr David Bleakley, the Northern Ireland Labour Party's representative in the Stormont Chamber in the afternoon that loyalists should be brought into the regional government.

The Army managed to keep five main routes into Belfast clear yesterday, an achievement that prompted a statement from the Northern Ireland Office saying that they had achieved "the object of keeping open access roads. The announcement caused some cynicism among the people, for large Protestant areas were still in a state almost of anarchy."

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Commodity price falls may reduce inflation

By Melvyn Westlake
Business News Staff

Prices of many key commodities fell heavily on London terminal markets yesterday, raising hopes that the unprecedented boom of the past two years might have been reversed. If the fall is sustained it will greatly help the Government's fight against inflation.

Rapid increases in raw material costs have been one of the most important factors behind the 13 per cent rise in retail prices during the past year.

Since January, 1972, many commodity prices have risen by more than 200 per cent, pushing inflation in most parts of the industrialized world into double figures, and exacerbating the overseas trade positions of some countries, including Britain and Japan.

The discernible fall in prices since the February peak shows signs of accelerating. Reuters commodity index has fallen a tenth since February 26, this year, dropping by 2 per cent yesterday.

Just how great that reversal might prove to be depends on several factors. Some economists have argued that a fundamental adjustment has taken place in the relationship between commodities and manufactured products and that prices are unlikely to fall to the levels prevailing two years ago. At the same time, many substitutes for raw materials are oil based, which makes natural materials more competitive even at higher prices.

But even a small drop is good news for the Government. It will help ministers to persuade the trade unions to temper wage claims without at the same time affecting the standard of living of their members. In addition, lower commodity prices will help relieve the import burden.

A miscalculation about the future course of commodity prices helped to throw off course the economic policies of the last Government and undermined the strategy behind the Phase Three counter-inflation programme.

The threshold agreements which formed part of the Phase Three programme in the belief that commodity prices had already reached a peak last autumn. These threshold agreements now cover more than five million employees and are likely to be broken.

Price index figures are published this Friday, giving every worker under the scheme at least an extra 40p. Further 40p payments must be made for every point the index rises above the trigger point (7 cent above the October level).

Lower commodity prices will at least help to increase the intervals between these threshold payments.

There were heavy falls in lead, zinc, tin and copper prices on the London Commodity Exchange. On the City bullion markets, the gold price, which has been important in signalling the general trend of commodity prices, fell \$2.25 an ounce to \$161.25. Last month it touched \$180.

A look at speculators, page 27

Oil self-sufficiency by 1980 forecast as new find is announced

By Roger Violeux
Energy Correspondent

Britain will be self-sufficient in oil by 1980 if new Government estimates of the output from the North Sea prove correct. Output of between 140 million and 140 million tons a year is now being forecast by the Department of Energy. This time last year the estimate was for 70 million to 100 million tons a year.

While Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, was announcing this "very encouraging" output in Britain's oil fortunes, the Occidental Oil group disclosed that it had made a new find, the Claymore Field, about 20 miles west of its established Piper Field.

The Government's new figures are based on information provided by the oil companies and in some quarters of the industry these are still regarded as rather conservative. Mr Varley told a press conference that the 100 million to 140 million tons a year figure was realistic.

He was confident that despite the serious shortages of men and materials to provide the equipment needed to get the oil ashore, Britain could become self-sufficient by 1980.

Mr Varley also made clear that the Government is striving for "self-sufficiency" in oil. That would involve large amounts of North Sea crude being used domestically with only marginal amounts of foreign crudes being imported to obtain certain products, such as lubricants, which domestic oil is not suitable.

The oil companies have been hoping to sell large quantities of high-quality, low-sulphur North Sea crude abroad at prices much above the lower quality grades being imported mainly from the Middle East.

At present the companies have only a legal requirement to land the oil in Britain. Mr Varley said that a system of export licences could very easily regulate any trade in crude oil.

The report presented by Mr Varley shows that production

from existing fields could, on present knowledge, reach about 115 million tons in 1980-81 and that, including future finds yet to be made, could be sustained at a rate of up to 150 million tons a year during the decade.

Oil production for next year had been forecast at 25 million tons, but because of allpiges in the platform buildings and pipe-laying programmes, only five million tons is likely to be produced. The 25 million-ton mark will not be exceeded before the second half of 1976.

On reserves, the report says that existing discoveries and possible future finds from existing fields could amount to 2,500 million tons, enough for at least 25 years output. It does not make into consideration any discoveries made in acreage that will be distributed in future licensing rounds.

The report is the first certain about the state of gas reserves. The established gas producing areas off East Anglia have estimated reserves of 274 million million cu ft, of which 213 million million cu ft is proved (technically capable of production) in the northern part of the North Sea, where gas has been found in association with oil. Estimated reserves are 141 million million cu ft, of which 54 million million cu ft are proved.

Those reserves are sufficient to allow production of about 5,000 million cu ft a day by the end of the decade, compared with the 4,000 million cu ft that should be available by next year. When the supplies from the Norwegian Frigg field are included, Britain's potential gas consumption by 1980 will be 6,000 million cu ft a day, double last year's annual consumption.

The Occidental group's find, east of Wick, produced about 2,000 barrels of oil a day from oil-bearing sands below 8,000 ft.

Our Lerwick Correspondent writes: "The oil industry has made a firm, but not a financial offer to the Shetland County Council in return for use of the islands as an oil base. It was announced in Lerwick today."

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Battle is joined over Jaworski crisis

From Patrick Ruggell
Washington, May 21

Mr Elliot Richardson, the former Attorney General, said today that "the law would fall" if President Nixon dismisses the special Watergate prosecutor, Mr Leon Jaworski.

Told of the sudden intensifying of the conflict between the special prosecutor and the White House, Mr Richardson said: "This sounds to me like when Mr Cox came in and went out."

He was referring to the sequence of events which led to the dismissal of Professor Archibald Cox as special prosecutor and Mr Richardson's resignation. The public outcry was so great that the President had to turn over a number of his tapes, appoint a new special

prosecutor, and ultimately promise him independence. Mr Jaworski now alleges that the President is trying to break those promises.

Mr Jaworski said in a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday that the President's conduct "is a direct challenge to the rule of law and to the integrity of the judicial system."

The Senate Judiciary Committee is holding a hearing to examine the situation this afternoon.

The White House spokesman and Mr St Clair both denied today that there was any likelihood that the President would dismiss Mr Jaworski.

Jaworski's letter, page 10

Callaghan prescription to revive Atlanticism

From Fred Emery
Washington, May 21

A prescription for "three Cs"—consultation, coordination and cooperation—to revive "transatlantic partnership" was offered here today by Mr James Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary.

Making his first speech in Washington since entering office, he said the Atlantic approach was the best beginning to make towards a global strategy now needed for the vast economic problems affecting the world. Without the three Cs "the prospects for the world's people" are sombre; but he asserted a new hope now that Herr Schmidt and Mr Giscard d'Estaing was in office in West Germany and France.

Mr Callaghan, addressing a National Press Club breakfast, also suggested that present institutions had become "outmoded" by the new pattern of trade and finance. All except the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) had been established in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War.

He expressed high regard for the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and Gatt, but proposed that thought should be given to reshaping them or even devising new world institutions within the ambit of the United Nations.

When asked to be more specific, the Foreign Secretary declined; but in the body of his speech he suggested that there should be different and independent institutions to handle such problems as the price of oil and other commodities from those that channelled monetary flows and the flow of aid funds to developing countries.

In pronouncing the revival of Atlanticism, Mr Callaghan said such a call for cooperation was to send "a shiver of alarm running down the backs of some people".

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Lord Shawcross is to chair Press Council

By a Staff Reporter

Lord Shawcross, QC, Labour's Attorney General in 1945-51, will be independent chairman of the Press Council from the beginning of July, when Lord Pearce's five-year term ends.

The appointment, made unanimously by the council yesterday, carries a salary of about £5,000 a year.

Lord Shawcross, who is 72, chaired the Royal Commission on the Press in 1961-62, and since 1967 has been a national director of Times Newspapers Ltd, a job from which he will now resign. He recently also gave up his chairmanship of Thames Television.

He is also thought to be intending to give up soon his chairmanship of the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers, which he has held since 1969 and in which he has confirmed his reputation for toughness as a chairman when need arises.

Lord Shawcross declined last night to suggest any changes in the Press Council's work. "I have not seen how it operates yet," he explained. He would familiarize himself with its work before July and after that would preside over it in what he hoped would be a more relaxed atmosphere "of the free and independent and courageous press, remembering the responsibility which such a press possesses".

Mr Denis Hamilton, Editor-in-Chief of Times Newspapers, a member of the Press Council, said last night that Lord Shaw-

cross's departure from the Times Newspapers board was greatly regretted.

Since joining the board in 1967, when the company was set up after the merger of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, he had made freely available his own experience in politics and the law and from his chairmanship of the royal commission.

"He is a man of great wisdom, and we all know him to be one of the staunchest defenders of the press," Mr Hamilton said. "He would have been a great help in the council's normal work. He would be preparing the council's evidence to the future Royal Commission on the Press, an appointment recently by the Prime Minister."

His advice would be of tremendous value in determining the council's attitude to a Bill on privacy later this year; when further reports came out on defamation and contempt of court.

The appointment would probably be controversial, Mr Hamilton said. There might be criticism from those who felt that he wanted to muzzle the press, to make it a tame animal.

There might be legislative attempts over the next few years to reduce press freedom, and the Press Council's appointment of so strong a chairman would be a defence against those threats.

GPs' report on the pill 'should dispel fears'

By John Roper
Medical Reporter

A report of a four-year study of 46,000 women by 1,400 general practitioners, published yesterday, virtually gave the contraceptive pill a clean bill of health. It says that use of the pill had a small protective effect against non-cancerous lumps and inflammation of the breast and possibly against the development of ovarian cysts.

Professor Patrick Byrne, President of the Royal College of General Practitioners, said yesterday: "This is a good day for women." It should dispel fears about the pill and inspire confidence, he added.

Dr Clifford Kay, a Manchester family doctor and recorder of the study, the largest of the pill ever made, said the conclusion was that risks were acceptable.

But the study had years to run and other difficulties might show up.

The report concludes that a small proportion of diseases are affected by use of the pill. Several suspected risks were shown to be small or non-existent.

There was no evidence that the pill could cause any cancer, including those of the breast and cervix. But observations on a large number of women for a minimum of ten

years was needed before confident conclusions could be drawn.

Incidence of neurotic depression was 30 per cent higher among pill takers. The report concluded that this was due to no evidence that severe depression or schizophrenia was associated with use of the pill. Users complained of diminished sex drive four times more often than non-users. There were unexplained increases of pain in nerves of the arm and of sciatica among users and former users, which needed more investigation.

Less than 1 per cent of users in the first year developed hypertension. 95 per cent would not have hypertension after five years use of the pill. The link with heart attacks was very small (41 cases in users and controls) but the known link with blood clot was confirmed as occurring five to six times more often in users.

Cold fingers and toes and chilblains were more common in users. Use of the pill had beneficial effects on menstrual disorders and pain during periods was reduced by 63 per cent. There appeared to be an increase in eczema and related skin disorders, but at least one pill in 500 should get some protection from acne.

There was no evidence that the pill affected a woman's subsequent fertility.

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Corruption claim over policemen's houses

From Christopher Walker
Newcastle upon Tyne

A new and serious disclosure of the extent of corruption in the North-east came to light this week when documents detailing the sale of allegedly cut-price houses to two senior police officers by a prominent northern builder were handed to detectives.

The documents indicate that in 1972, one of the builder's construction companies sold new houses to the two officers at almost half the price that a third neighbouring, identical property was sold to a member of the public.

Over the past few months, allegations have been made about the builder's connections with Labour councillors and other public officials in the region. But after the trial of Mr T. Dan Smith and Mr Andrew Cunningham, it is only in the past fortnight that documents supporting the claims are known to have been handed to the police. On May 10 an invoice claiming to show that the builder had bought cars for a former alderman and a council official was also given to detectives who are conducting a wide-ranging investigation into local and regional government corruption in the area.

I was shown the documents relating to the sale of the houses on Monday by Mr Edward Milne, independent MP for Blyth, who has sent copies to the Northumbria police: "These documents are of major importance and I am more than satisfied that they are genuine."

What they show fits in exactly with the more general pattern of what we know has been going on up here.

The documents relate to three identical houses, constructed by the builder on similar plots of land. A letter dated April 25, 1972, from his construction company to solicitors acting for the original owner of the land shows that the first house was sold for £5,200, the second for £3,121 and the third for £5,525.

What is not indicated in the letter, which names the buyers each with the prefix "Mr", is that the two cheaper houses were sold to senior police officers, while the third went to a member of the public.

The implication is that the houses were supplied by the builder to the policemen at extremely preferential rates.

This latest example of alleged corrupt practice in the North-east is bound to embarrass those senior Labour Party members who have been opposing an

internal inquiry on the ground that corruption is a matter for the police alone.

For some years Mr Milne and his party supporters have argued that police investigations alone are not sufficient to uncover the full extent of malpractices among Labour-controlled councils and authorities in the region. One reason for their claim was the fact that Mr Andrew Cunningham, jailed last month on corruption charges, was at one time chairman of the Durham police authority.

The proposed setting up of a Labour Party inquiry into affairs in the North-east will be discussed in London today by the party's national executive. Union leaders and some MPs in the North-east have indicated there will be determined local resistance if any attempt is made to shelve the demand for an inquiry which was passed by a large majority at last Saturday's meeting.

The builder responsible for the three houses is known to have had close contact over several years with Labour councillors and leading local government officials in the region. Documents in the possession of *The Times* show

that one former leading councilor has at one time or another held directorships with five of his companies over the past 15 years.

On May 10 local detectives were handed an invoice relating to the builder concerning two cars, costing £1,400 each, which it was alleged he purchased for a former alderman and a council official. Dated 1973, the invoice is believed to be made out to the builder and names the former alderman and the council official who took delivery of the new cars.

Supporters of the call for a full-scale inquiry into the alleged cover up of corruption in the region see the acquisition of detailed documentary evidence as very significant. Only last weekend, Mr Reg Underhill, national agent of the Labour Party, accused Mr Milne of making unsubstantiated innuendoes against innocent people.

He told the regional conference in Newcastle, Guildhall: "Public statements are based on any facts mean damn all."

The documents handed to the police indicate that the Labour Party will have to steel itself to face more public examination of the activities of some members in the North-east.

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HOME NEWS

Ulster strike has widespread support from Protestants ready to stay behind barricades

From Robert Fisk

Belfast

From almost the first moment that one drives past the hijacked lorries, and the men in black leather jackets guarding them, the realisation dawns that most of the Protestants behind the barricades are supporting the strike. The Government's carefully nurtured belief that "loyalists" are staying away from work only because of intimidation seems to be far from reality each day. Ironically, a similar mistake was made by the old Unionist Administration when it was faced with the growth of Roman Catholic intransigence and the IRA in 1971.

No one denies that intimidation has taken place in the strike and there are several people in the Victorian slum terraces of Sandy Row who have had to watch helplessly as their cars and vans were turned into road blocks in the side streets on Monday. But by yesterday morning, the Ulster Workers' Council, with the help of the three loyalist political parties, had set up welfare and advice centres in every Protestant area of Belfast, three in Sandy Row alone.

The UDA and the other barely legal private armies have arranged for social security payments to be collected in bulk while pensioners have been receiving, free, two candles, half a pound of tea and half a pound of butter from the young unionists and Vanguard men supporting the strike.

The barricades have been strengthened with wood, sheet metal and more lorries, and, in spite of all the hopes at Stormont Castle, the signs are that the people of Sandy Row are quite content to settle in behind them for a month.

Shopkeepers are unhappy and one talked bitterly yesterday of three men in uniform who ordered him to close, but

virtually every business is opening at the hours allowed by the workers council; chemists, all day, food shops and essential stores from 9 am to 2 pm, and post offices from 2 pm until 6 pm. Army patrols wander through the streets under the eye of the UDA, chatting with some nervousness to the men on the barricades but making no attempt to take them down.

"I know there has been intimidation and looting," a middle-aged woman in Donegall Road said with slight misgivings. "But we are sick of Faulkner and his men and the Council of Ireland. We do not want to strike but the British must let us have a fair government, not Sunningdale. We have struck the bombing and the IRA and the British Government's mistakes for five years, so we can certainly stick this strike for two or three weeks."

In Frenchpark Avenue, the local Vanguard Party organizer is running an advice centre for the past 24 hours the coin box telephone in the front hall has been ringing every five minutes with calls about food supplies, pensions and petrol.

"At first we had a few complaints," the Vanguard man said, "but they were not so much about the strike as about the times that food could be bought. We had three people ring against the strike; but most have been asking for help. The paramilitary groups have been supplying milk for children after buying it from the Co-op."

The man seemed a little hesitant about the payments, he said they came from the workers' council fund, but he and his colleagues had already worked out a method that took away the necessity for local men to queue outside the social security office. Early yesterday Vanguard sent a man down to the local office and picked up

scores of unemployment cards so that claimants could fill them in at home.

"We have even had some inquiries which have nothing to do with the strike," the woman who owns the house said. "One girl came on the phone in tears because her husband had hit her. Then we found out she had no sink or proper lavatory in the house so we fixed her up with them."

The strikers are soon going to be short of petrol. In Sandy Row they have been going from garage to garage, steadily using up supplies. One garage owner confirmed that he had been paid in full, but no tankers are entering the district.

There is an embarrassing number of queues at the bread shops where Donegall Road meets Primitive Street, but there are no indications of disaffection. In a house whose walls were covered in Gothic motifs, extolling God's work, "He hath done all things well," one embroidery announced, and another, "How excellent is thy loving kindness," a dark-haired woman in her thirties admitted that not everyone had supported the strike at first.

"When people did not know so much about it, they did not like it," she said. "But now they have talked to us about it and about Sunningdale, and there is no reason why we cannot go on. We can survive and that is what counts."

Survival is something the strike leaders have shrewdly learnt to study. They have, however clumsily, begun to set up the framework of a crude system of social services to take the place of the state's. It is something the IRA perfected behind their barricades in Flow derry in 1972. And "Free Derry", with all its intimidation and its obvious gunmen, lasted for more than half a year.

Cosgrave rebuke to all men of violence

From Stewart Tandler

Dublin

The Dail stood in silent tribute to the Dublin car bomb victims yesterday after Mr Cosgrave, the Prime Minister, had made a strong attack on all militants.

He described the four bombs as the worst incident in the whole of Ireland since the end of the last war. He said: "What does any man of violence in these islands hope to gain? For the blood of the innocent victims of last Friday's outrage, and of similar victims in the North and in England, is on the hands of every man who has fired a gun or discharged a bomb in the present campaign of violence, just as plainly as it is on the hands of those who park the cars and set the charges."

As the death of a girl of 21 years brought the death toll to 30, the search for the bombers continued.

The Irish Army and the police have been cooperating and the registers of hotels throughout the republic have been scrutinized for suspicious guests. After raids on Monday night, six men appeared in the special court in Dublin yesterday on various charges of possessing arms and membership of an illegal organization.

Petrol embargo likely to have devastating effect

Continued from page 1

If Mr Rees's advisers had trouble to travel round Protestant districts in west Belfast, for example, they would have found that the paramilitary groups have organized themselves into brigades, set up social welfare organizations and strengthened dozens of road blocks.

At the end of the M1 motorway, members of the Ulster Volunteer Force in black leather jackets manned a barricade of hijacked lorries.

At one point during the morning soldiers were standing on top of a Protestant barricade at the junction of Tates Avenue and Northbrook Street chatting to those guarding the barricade, but making not the slightest attempt to open up the area.

In east Belfast there was more rioting in the afternoon, cars were burnt and the police came under a burst of sub-machine gun fire. A man tried to pull down a barricade in Connswater Street.

Belfast rioters steal police vehicle

Rioters stole a police vehicle during a riot in Ravenhill Road, and in Larne, an Antrim, up to a hundred Ulster Defence Association men in full uniform and carrying cudgels blocked off the town for a time.

There were reports again last night that several barricades had been voluntarily dismantled and there was some momentary relief in the agricultural business when the workers' council announced that it was classing animal foodstuffs as an essential service in the light of reports that poultry and animals were dying of starvation.

The embargo on oil and petrol, however, is likely to have a devastating effect. The council had suggested its restriction, it said, because of inexcusable statements by politicians at Westminster.

The arrival of 500 more soldiers from the 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry, on Monday night has apparently caused no qualms among the workers' council leaders. Yesterday they ignored the warning in the House of Commons by Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, that more troops might have to be sent.

Four hundred soldiers are understood to be on standby in Britain and can be flown to Northern Ireland within three hours if the security situation should deteriorate.

For much of the day less than a third of the normal electricity supply was generated in the province, and bakers and dairies, which were allowed to continue their work unmolested by the strikers, still found it difficult to produce enough food for Belfast.

There were long queues at nearly every bread-shop in the west of the city, and in Shaftesbury Square nearly 300 strikers queued to claim their social security benefits.

Scarcely any clothing or stationery shops were open in Belfast yesterday and only two of the big department stores stayed open.

In Roman Catholic areas life continued almost as normal. Shops stayed open, no barricades



Conservative chorus: Delegates to the Conservative women's conference at the Central Hall, Westminster, yesterday singing the national anthem at the opening of the conference.

Later, the delegates heard Sir Geoffrey Howe, Opposition spokesman for social services, announce that he had set up "task forces" to review Conservative policy in that field (our Political Staff

writes). He said this was not because the Opposition had doubts about its general approach; it was simply taking advantage of its period out of government to ensure that it was ready with clear priorities for a social programme when it was returned to power.

The task forces, comprising about 20 Tory MPs, were studying nine specific subjects: the tax credit scheme; the progressive removal of the earnings rule;

the improvement of services for disabled; the provision of occupational therapy; the operation of the social work; the adequacy of provision for child care; the financing of the NHS; the future of private medical practice; and the role of the Opposition to address the conference this afternoon.

Rat-catcher's death a mystery

Mr Raymond King, a rat-catcher, died a month after he had gulped down a handful of poisonous pellets to show kitchen staff at a boys' school that they were harmless, an inquest at Truro, Cornwall, was told yesterday.

Tests showed, however, that he had died from a different poison, thallium. Mr Edward Caryon, the coroner, who recorded an open verdict, said: "I am inclined to discount the fact that he took this thallium deliberately to prove that it was harmless. I believe this is top evidence. None of the evidence shows that he said anything or did anything that would indicate that he might have taken a dose of thallium deliberately."

Dr James Barryman, who treated Mr King, aged 32, when he was taken ill, said he found that he had received psychiatric treatment in 1969 after trying to kill himself with a drug.

Mr James Keegan, general manager of Kennell Ltd, for whom Mr King worked, said he had never used thallium on behalf of the company.

Nurses to begin industrial campaign on Sunday

Nurses will begin a serious and determined campaign of industrial action on Sunday, it was announced yesterday. It will include "limited and selective" withdrawals of labour.

The Confederation of Health Service Employees said after discussing Monday's meeting with Mr Wilson.

Mr Albert Spawcett, the general secretary, said in a statement: "Our decision of yesterday evening seems to have been wrongly interpreted. As we stated last Thursday, a serious and determined campaign of industrial action will now go ahead and all branches are being instructed to 'take effect'."

The only difference was that all our national strikes would now be general strikes.

From midnight on Sunday all confederation nursing branches throughout the country would operate restrictive measures, including bans on overtime, clerical work unless associated with

the direct care of patients, domestic or non-nursing duties, and selective withdrawals of labour would place on the authorities the onus of ensuring that the country was not short of nursing services.

Mr Wilson said that the campaign would not only affect the normal day-to-day work of nurses, but also the one-hour stoppages, said day that they would be their campaign. Nurses' National Association and at a time near Hull stopped work for an hour yesterday and in parts of the country, in Liverpool and Huddersfield, strikes and work-to-rule ploys have been organized.

Pay rise averts strike: A pay rise of 45,000 shillings was agreed last night after the Co-operative Nurses' Association had agreed to ignore the Board's advice to accept a 3% increase of 13,000 shillings.

Co-operative societies face the possibility of Board orders instructing them to restrict the increases.

Mr Len Murray's attempt to lead march back to work is almost total failure

From a Staff Reporter

Belfast

Mr Len Murray must have realized that his pathetically brave march was going to be a disaster when the soldiers and policemen on Queen's Quay began to outnumber the strike breakers at the shipyard gate.

The military were on the river side, the road bridge, the railway station forecourt and the pavements. Soldiers saw the prestige of Northern Ireland's trade unions evaporate in a welter of abuse, iron bolts and rotten tomatoes from an east Belfast mob.

Perhaps 200 workers walked through the Harland and Wolff gates while "loyalists" brayed outside and fought the police. Yesterday's attempt by the TUC general secretary and his colleagues to break Ulster's general strike was doomed from the start by the very intimidation against which they were protesting and by what can only be counted as the unions' painful lack of political influence.

They had gathered, most of them on the east side of the river just before eight o'clock, middle-aged men who tried not to notice when a crowd of women shouting abuse and the chorus of "no surrender" coming from behind the station facade opposite was much more disturbing for the workers. The singers emerged from an alleyway next to the railway yard, at least a hundred of them, waving Ulster flags and wearing denim.

The soldiers of The Royal

Regiment of Wales stood between them; the first time in Northern Ireland that a mass of Protestants needed protection from another mass of Protestants.

There was a brigadier, too, and a colonel with a hook in place of a hand, who may have mused that this was one of the few occasions, perhaps the only one, when the Army would be called on to assist British trade unions in a demonstration.

Mr Merlyn Rees, the Secretary of State, had promised them protection and the Army saw that they got it.

Seventeen policemen were by this time pouring out of the back of Land-Rovers, apprehensively watching the mob of loyalists who had already paraded to the gates and were heading back again in the direction of the trade unions.

The RUC formed a cordon across the road, and the strikers, apparently taking instructions from a man in a light blue shirt, began to struggle with them.

Soldiers carrying batons lined up behind them and began to squeeze a path through the rioters for Mr Murray's column. One inspector was punched in the face by a woman brandishing an Ulster flag daubed with slogans, while another lost his hat in a fist fight on the pavement.

The eggs and old tomatoes thrown by the mob splashed in a brown slurry over the green uniforms of the police officers and stained the coats of the men and women they were guarding.

A woman spat into Mr Murray's face from close range and dozens of youths began lobbing pieces of iron piping into the crowd.

In three minutes, the heaving, shouting throng had reached the gates and the workers pushed through it, some shaking with relief. The shipyard security men struggled to close the great wrought-iron gates while two RUC constables dragged a persistent rioter away behind a wall.

At the Castlereagh industrial estate a mile away an even braver band of only 20 men walked the gates of a hundred shouting loyalists on their way to work. They suffered the same taunts as a man at Queen's Quay, who was approached by a woman who said: "Don't forget, you're all marked men—we know you all."

Mr Andy Barr, president of the Shipbuilding and Engineering Workers' Union, said afterwards that others would work (an object that was hardly fulfilled) while Mr Murray said people had been able to see the kind of intimidation that existed.

"I came here to see for myself, the intimidation of ordinary working people," he said. "These people have come and have stood up for the right to work."

Some hours later a statement from the shipyard and heavy engineering industries said that the marchers' efforts had made no appreciable difference to the effects of the strike.

Coroner says gunmen were 'monsters'

Major Hubert O'Neill the Londonderry Coroner, yesterday described as "monsters in human form" the gunmen who killed five men and wounded several others in a crowded public house.

He recorded open verdicts at an inquest on the five men who died in what he said was known as the "Top of the Hill Massacre", at Strabane Old Road, Waterside, in December, 1972.

He said: "This was nothing short of a horrible, sadistic, brutal murder." The men had been mowed down with a machine-gun and pistol.

The murdered men were: Mr Michael John McGinley, aged 40, and Mr Charles McCafferty, aged 30, both of Anderson Crescent; Mr Bernard Kelly, aged 26, of Mimosa Court; Mr Frank McCarron, aged 58, of Strabane Old Road and Mr Charles Boyd Moore, aged 30, of Spencer Park. Eighteen children were left fatherless.

Four hundred soldiers are understood to be on standby in Britain and can be flown to Northern Ireland within three hours if the security situation should deteriorate.

For much of the day less than a third of the normal electricity supply was generated in the province, and bakers and dairies, which were allowed to continue their work unmolested by the strikers, still found it difficult to produce enough food for Belfast.

There were long queues at nearly every bread-shop in the west of the city, and in Shaftesbury Square nearly 300 strikers queued to claim their social security benefits.

Scarcely any clothing or stationery shops were open in Belfast yesterday and only two of the big department stores stayed open.

In Roman Catholic areas life continued almost as normal. Shops stayed open, no barricades

Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 5.05 am
Sun sets: 8.55 pm
Moon rises: 10.05 pm
Moon sets: 5.10 am
First Quarter: May 28

Lighting up: 5.25 pm to 4.29 am.
High water: London Bridge, 7.35 am, 7.1m (23.2ft); 3.3 pm, 7.2m (23.5ft).
Avonmouth, 8.21 am, 13.0m (42.5ft); 8.41 pm, 13.3m (43.5ft).
Dunfermline, 6.4 pm, 6.4m (20.9ft).
Bull, 7.7 am, 7.1m (23.2ft); 7.28 pm, 7.1m (23.4ft).
Liverpool, 12.17 pm, 8.7m (28.5ft).

A weak ridge of high pressure is expected to move E-across the United Kingdom while a trough of low pressure is slow moving in the SW approaches.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight: London, SE, central S, E England, East Anglia, E Midlands: Cloudy, especially early, mainly dry, sunny spells; wind W, moderate; max temp 17°C (63°F).
W Midlands, central N, NE England: Sunny spells, scattered showers; wind W, moderate; max temp 16°C (61°F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Mostly cloudy, occasional drizzle, patchy hill fog, brighter spells; wind SW, moderate; max temp 14°C (57°F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Cloudy, showers, sunny intervals; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 15°C (59°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mostly sunny with rain at times and temp near normal in W and S; rather cool with showers and sunny intervals in N and E.

Sea: persistent S-N breeze, Strait of Dover, Wind W, fresh, perhaps strong; sea moderate or rough.

English Channel (E), St George's Channel: Wind SW, fresh; sea moderate.

Satellite sightings (London) tomorrow: Figures show, in order: time visible, where, rising, maximum elevation and direction of setting. Asterisks indicate entering or leaving eclipses. Cosmos 534 Rocket.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; x, rain; s, sun; th, thunder.

| Area | Temp | Wind | Cloud | Pressure |
|----------------|------|------|-------|----------|
| London | 14 | W | c | 1012 |
| Birmingham | 13 | W | c | 1011 |
| Manchester | 12 | W | c | 1010 |
| Cardiff | 11 | W | c | 1009 |
| Belfast | 10 | W | c | 1008 |
| Edinburgh | 9 | W | c | 1007 |
| Glasgow | 8 | W | c | 1006 |
| Newcastle | 7 | W | c | 1005 |
| Sheffield | 6 | W | c | 1004 |
| Leeds | 5 | W | c | 1003 |
| Nottingham | 4 | W | c | 1002 |
| Coventry | 3 | W | c | 1001 |
| Bristol | 2 | W | c | 1000 |
| Exeter | 1 | W | c | 999 |
| Plymouth | 0 | W | c | 998 |
| Southampton | -1 | W | c | 997 |
| Reading | -2 | W | c | 996 |
| Windsor | -3 | W | c | 995 |
| Slough | -4 | W | c | 994 |
| Uxbridge | -5 | W | c | 993 |
| Watlington | -6 | W | c | 992 |
| Wotton Bassett | -7 | W | c | 991 |
| Wokingham | -8 | W | c | 990 |
| Woking | -9 | W | c | 989 |
| Wokingham | -10 | W | c | 988 |
| Wokingham | -11 | W | c | 987 |
| Wokingham | -12 | W | c | 986 |
| Wokingham | -13 | W | c | 985 |
| Wokingham | -14 | W | c | 984 |
| Wokingham | -15 | W | c | 983 |
| Wokingham | -16 | W | c | 982 |
| Wokingham | -17 | W | c | 981 |
| Wokingham | -18 | W | c | 980 |
| Wokingham | -19 | W | c | 979 |
| Wokingham | -20 | W | c | 978 |

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 7 pm, 18°C (64°F); min, 12°C (54°F). Humid 81 per cent. Rain, 24.7 mm, trace Sun, 24 hours 1.7 hours. Barometer, 1 level, 7 pm, 1,018.2 millibars = 29.53 in.

At the resorts

24 hours to 6 pm, May E COAST

| Area | Temp | Wind | Cloud | Pressure |
|----------------|------|------|-------|----------|
| Southampton | 14 | W | c | 1012 |
| Reading | 13 | W | c | 1011 |
| Windsor | 12 | W | c | 1010 |
| Slough | 11 | W | c | 1009 |
| Uxbridge | 10 | W | c | 1008 |
| Watlington | 9 | W | c | 1007 |
| Wotton Bassett | 8 | W | c | 1006 |
| Wokingham | 7 | W | c | 1005 |
| Woking | 6 | W | c | 1004 |
| Wokingham | 5 | W | c | 1003 |
| Wokingham | 4 | W | c | 1002 |
| Wokingham | 3 | W | c | 1001 |
| Wokingham | 2 | W | c | 1000 |
| Wokingham | 1 | W | c | 999 |
| Wokingham | 0 | W | c | 998 |
| Wokingham | -1 | W | c | 997 |
| Wokingham | -2 | W | c | 996 |
| Wokingham | -3 | W | c | 995 |
| Wokingham | -4 | W | c | 994 |
| Wokingham | -5 | W | c | 993 |
| Wokingham | -6 | W | c | 992 |
| Wokingham | -7 | W | c | 991 |
| Wokingham | -8 | W | c | 990 |
| Wokingham | -9 | W | c | 989 |
| Wokingham | -10 | W | c | 988 |
| Wokingham | -11 | W | c | 987 |
| Wokingham | -12 | W | c | 986 |
| Wokingham | -13 | W | c | 985 |
| Wokingham | -14 | W | c | 984 |
| Wokingham | -15 | W | c | 983 |
| Wokingham | -16 | W | c | 982 |
| Wokingham | -17 | W | c | 981 |
| Wokingham | -18 | W | c | 980 |
| Wokingham | -19 | W | c | 979 |
| Wokingham | -20 | W | c | 978 |

What has Austin Reed in common with Thomas Cook?

See front page of the Out of Town Report today

Let's go to EUROPE

Scheduled services from London Airport Gatwick to Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Genoa, Le Touquet, Gibraltar, Lisbon, Malaga, Paris and the Canary Islands. Amsterdam

flights from Glasgow and Newcastle. Copenhagen from Edinburgh and Newcastle. Ask your travel agent for details. Or contact our nearest office.

LET'S GO BRITISH CALEDONIA

OVER 600 FLIGHTS A WEEK TO EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA, SOUTH AMERICA, AFRICA AND WITHIN

Brussels. 19 flights a week from June 4th!



The only thing it hasn't got is two seats in the back.

As we see it, there's really only one snag with Mercedes-Benz cars.

Their attractions can always be shared by at least four people. Separated from the world about them by a firm, hard top.

No fun for the man who wants only to reserve his attentions for one other.

No consolation for the person who occasionally likes to go without a roof over his head.

So it's perhaps fortunate that we do include in our range the 450SL. Which has none of the embarrassment of surplus seating capacity.

Yet unlike most sports cars loses not one single other advantage of the large saloon.

Drive, even at the top speed of 134 mph and you'll feel as secure as in any chauffeured limousine.

Take off for a 600 mile journey and you'll have no cause to worry about state of mind or body at the end of it.

Drive in the cold, travel night and day—you're as draught-free and as little bothered by noise as in our staunchest saloon.

The 450SL even includes some of our newest features too.

Maximum torque, for instance, is reached at exceptionally low revs. Giving you at once the kind of acceleration so essential for today's roads.

Automatic 3-speed transmission with torque converter is standard.

An anti-squat device prevents rear end dip during acceleration.

And, of course, you still get that famous Mercedes-Benz power-assisted steering.

We could go on. But really, in fact, you need a test drive to appreciate quite all you get with the 450SL.

That lack of seats could be the very thing you've been looking for.



Mercedes-Benz

HOME NEWS

Mr Jenkins's long-term policy to cut prison population by more non-custodial methods

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, said yesterday that his long-term policy was to reduce the prison population markedly by means of more non-custodial treatment. He would consider restricting the scope of criminal law, or at least of imprisonment as a power available to the courts, for certain offences.

Speaking in London to the Central Council of Probation and After-care Committees, Mr Jenkins said: "There is a wide area of antisocial conduct, rightly dealt with as criminal, but where prison will often or indeed, always seem inappropriate: when the balance of the arguments for and against it has been struck.

"Petty property offences, minor incidents of violence, traffic violations where neither the act and its consequences nor its repetition represents more than nuisance to the victim and to society are cases in point.

"Many, if not most, of these are already dealt with by the courts without recourse to prison. But enough remain to constitute a sizable proportion of our prison population.

"We shall want to look, and look hard, at the numbers of un-

sentenced prisoners. On average as many as 4,500 are awaiting either trial or sentence, and many will not eventually receive a custodial sentence. The recent report of the Home Office working party on bail, published earlier this month, indicates some signs of advance here."

Mr Jenkins said there was still no substitute, however, for prisons as a means of protecting individuals and society generally from some kinds of serious crime. Cases in point were murder, rape, robbery, major incidents or careers of theft and burglary and, "as we are becoming increasingly aware, corporate crime of the most serious kind, including major frauds and malpractices which cause or threaten widespread danger."

As the other extreme was antisocial behaviour, such as drunkenness, drug abuse, prostitution and vagrancy. Such offenders did not substantially swell the prison population, but any defensible reduction would be helpful.

Mr Jenkins strongly welcomed the report, published in *The Times* yesterday, of the Advisory Council on the Penal System on young adult offenders. He said he would closely consider its

detailed proposals in consultation with the probation and after-care service, the prison service and others. He realized that some probation officers feared that they might be given too custodial a role.

The experiment in community service in six probation areas, a new form of non-custodial treatment, had been going a full year and so far as it had gone, could be counted a success. In some areas as many as three quarters of those affected would otherwise have been in prison. He was anxious to extend that scheme.

Officers' opposition: Prison officers will continue to oppose any scheme that allows the widespread use of former inmates as social workers in prisons, Mr Sidney Powell, chairman of the Prison Officers' Association, said yesterday (the Press Association reports).

Mr Powell told the association's annual conference at Westbury-on-Trym, Somerset, that officers could be forgiven if they questioned the methods of politicians and others who sought to bring parliamentary pressure to bear on them to let some former inmates back into prison to fulfil "quasi-social" roles.

Cash benefit sought for primary schools

By our Education Correspondent

The Government was asked yesterday to restrict spending on higher education and devote the maximum proportion of resources to primary and secondary schools. The call was made by the Association of Education Committees in view of the economic crisis.

Mr David Young, chairman of Somerset Education Committee, told the association's meeting in London that in his authority there were 187 primary schools built before 1903. Many required total replacement or modernization. In 1974-75 they would be more than 200 teachers short of their quota.

Many primary schools were so bad that authorities were tempted to delay the development of nursery schools. Concern at truancy: A properly organized and financed education welfare service to contain school truancy was called for by the conference (the Press Association reports).

Ms Mollie Christie, president of the association, said much was made of the increase in truancy. "What is crucial to its reputation, and vital to society, is that it should be dealt with promptly before it can become a habit," she said.

Ballot-box election for Cowley shop stewards

By Clifford Webb
Midland Industrial Correspondent

The Transport and General Workers' Union has exonerated Mr Alan Thornett, the man at the centre of the strike at British Leyland's Cowley plant last month, finding no justification for the company's allegations against him. But it has changed the system under which union officials like Mr Thornett, are elected at the plant.

The refusal of British Leyland to recognize Mr Thornett's credentials as a deputy senior shop steward in the transport section led to an 18-day strike by 150 transport drivers. It cost the company about £17m in lost production; 12,000 workers were laid off.

A report, by a team of six, was presented to the union's Midland regional committee yesterday. Mr Brian Mathers, the regional secretary, said it had been agreed by 24 votes to one, with one abstention, that Mr Thornett was innocent.

Two significant changes in the union structure at Cowley were proposed by the team. The main one, that senior shop stewards and their deputies should not be elected by the shop stewards' body but by a ballot of all the membership, is designed to break the self-perpetuating authority of such officials.

The other proposed change, that a new branch of the union should be set up for the Cowley assembly shops only, would enable officials and members to keep more closely in touch with more parochial issues.

Mr Mathers said the report did not specifically call for Mr Thornett's reinstatement as a shop steward because "that matter is being dealt with by the union's national executive". But it reinforced the union's view that he should be reinstated.

Company surprised: British Leyland said last night that it had not been invited to present evidence to the inquiry and had not yet had an opportunity to see the report (our Labour Staff writes). "In the meantime, from what we have been told, we are surprised at the unilateral way in which the union has reached its conclusions", the company said.

Our Labour correspondent writes: More than 800 workers yesterday threatened to resign from the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers in protest against a move to withdraw credentials from shop stewards who ignored this month's national strike.

Members of the Walsall Central branch of the union say that many shop stewards did not even receive letters calling them out on strike until it was over.

Casual Civil Service staff seen as security risk

Casual staff in government departments had access to classified documents and could photograph confidential papers and letters, Mr Ronald Holder, a security liaison officer at the Department of the Environment, in London said yesterday.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, at Bournemouth, Mr Holder said there were no security checks on casual staff. Full-time civil servants were checked for nationality, heritage, previous employment, political views and past offences, and had to sign the Official Secrets Act and tell their department if they took holidays in iron curtain countries.

Since the recent bomb scares, security had been tightened even more, but there were "dozens of loopholes in the system."

Unchecked casual staff in government departments included personal secretaries, machine operators, draughtsmen, cleaning staff, maintenance staff, window cleaners and security men from private organizations.

"A girl whose name may not even be known in advance may be obtained by telephone to act as a personal secretary," Mr Holder said. "These people have access to classified documents, papers and letters or, even more serious, bring bombs into the buildings."

The conference passed a motion deploring the employment of casual, agency, contract and security organizations without the security procedures considered necessary for permanent staff.

Mr Holder said later that he did not know how many casual staff were employed but he thought all security departments used them.

"Agencies don't check their staff. Anyone can go into an agency office, put her name on a list and be sent for a job," he said. "People could be sent to work in a room where they come from and how they are chosen? The danger is there and one day something will happen."

A spokesman for the Civil Service said there were security procedures for employing casual and agency staff. "It is up to the departments to implement them," he said. Casual and agency staff were covered by the Official Secrets Act in the same way as regular staff.

Gang members lose appeals
Members of a London East End gang, said at their trial to have moved in on the King brothers' protection racket yesterday lost appeals against their convictions and sentences of up to 12 years on charges including blackmail.

The four who appealed were Phillip Jacobs, aged 41, painted can, described as the leader of the gang, of Grove Park, Wandsworth; George Dixon, aged 35, barman, of Horsesham Road, Bexleyheath; his brother, Alan, aged 23, of Bexleyheath; and Leonard Carleton, aged 37, company director, of Sidney Road, Forest Gate.

In brief

TV chief hot inquiry is last

Mr John Freeman, and chief executive of Weekend Television, said yesterday that he hoped the inquiry into his television company would be the last for 10 years of us making television. He thought no one in the industry was very keen about the inquiry. It summed "a vast amount and add to the feeling that people have a future."

Call to stop EEC
The National Union of Women's Guilds, at a meeting in London, called on the Government to abandon its proposed European Economic Community because the EC was not fully understood.

Delays on M5 link
Motorists travelling West Country from the east should continue to use the M3-A303 route, because the opening of two lanes at the junction of the M5 and the A303 will be delayed.

Oxford college si
More than a hundred of Ruskin College, Oxford, occupying the college's main building yesterday, they consider that the ties have failed to abate agreement about diploma.

Powell book by I
Dr Doogan, a lecturer in education, Staffordshire University, is writing a biography of Mr Powell in which he is showing that Mr Powell was a racist.

Silverware stolen
In the fourth count in a burglary in six days in a busy area, silverware worth several thousand pounds stolen yesterday from a house, home of Major Sir Robert Hinde.

Striptease banned
A striptease show at Anglia University has been banned by the students' union, a campaign by a women's group, and the ban was the ban and 175 against.

No verdict yet
For the second night the jury in the Webb robbery case was sent away from the Central Court to an hotel after reaching verdicts in the eight men.

Refinery protest
Residents on Canvey Island, Essex, who are protesting a decision to allow two oil refineries to be built, are to meet Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, on Tuesday.

Mass for the deaf
A version of the Mass in sign language is almost complete. Catholic Information closed yesterday.

Nutty-brown faces and well cut tweeds stage diffident rates protest

By Arthur Osman

London has seen more volatile demonstrations than that staged yesterday by the ratepayers of Northamptonshire. But as front runner, as it were, for the usually passive and silent middle segment of Britain, it did a thoroughly commendable job. The march by 350 representing every town and village in the county had all more impact for its very cordiality and diffidence.

Unhappily, and inevitably the marchers learnt that there could be no more money for hard-pressed ratepayers this year. They had an assurance from both political parties that the wheels

were turning, at what speed it was impossible to discover, on rate reform and Mr Oakes, Under-Secretary of State, Department of the Environment, said: "What I can do to make sure that the formula for next year is infinitely better than the one for this year."

Although they forcefully expressed the dismay and outrage expected of them at the 70 per cent to 100 per cent rate increases, not a cross word was exchanged during the demonstrators' four-hour stay in and around Westminster. Police officers who marched with them tended to discuss the prospects for runner beans this summer, and the mobile reserve following

the amiable crocodile along Millbank might well have been followers of the Pythich.

Demonstration dress was well-cut tweeds, club ties and Rotary badges sparkling in the lapels. Nutty-brown faces from the hamlets mixed with paler shades from the towns. A well-shod woman smoked a chevron, and Miss Julia Kirby, aged 81, whose cottage rates have risen from £24 to £38 a year, sturdily sang: "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

Lord Althorp and Lady Hesketh from the county gentry marched with the small but potent force. A petition of protest with more than 45,000 signatures was handed in at the Department of the Environment and earlier the

county's MPs and leaders of both political parties on the county council went to Downing Street to hand in a joint letter. It spoke of the "extraordinary burdens" being imposed on the county's ratepayers, and requested additional government assistance "in support of the unique contribution being made by the county in aid of national policies for the relocation of population and employment."

Northamptonshire has four new and expanding towns at Daventry, Corby, Wellingborough and the county town, which is suffering from Birmingham overspill.

It was an unparalleled growth rate, the letter said, and was imposing heavy burdens on existing ratepayers.

Mr Oakes told the marchers that he had much sympathy for the county, which had "an explosive rate of population growth"; they could not be considered in isolation, but only with other areas in need. It was agreed that the existing rating system was archaic and "we are looking at it with urgent attention."

At a mass meeting in a Commons committee room, Mrs Thatcher, shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, said: "We all agree that the rating system is archaic, but what we are not agreed on is what you go on to from it."

Drive to end Act after Arrowsmith conviction

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

A campaign is being launched to repeal the Incitement to Disaffection Act, under which Miss Arrowsmith, the peace campaigner, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment on Monday.

Her case will probably be taken to the European Commission of Human Rights if her appeal to the Court of Appeal is unsuccessful.

The repeal campaign began yesterday with letters from the National Council for Civil Liberties and Amnesty International (for whom Miss Arrowsmith worked) to Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary.

The NCCL intends to have a Bill presented to the House of Lords repealing the 1934 Act, and to have the matter raised in the Commons. Amnesty, which has also written to Mr Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, is co-opting Miss Arrowsmith, aged 44, as a "prisoner of conscience".

That would be the second time it has done so, the first being when she went to prison for nuclear disarmament activities.

The only other British prisoner given the "prisoner of conscience" label by Amnesty, Mr Michael Tobin, served the two-year maximum under the Incitement Act.

Mr Tobin has applied to the European Commission of Human Rights, alleging that the Act was in breach of the right to free speech and freedom of expression under the European Convention on Human Rights.

The Times Awards for the best advertisement of a company's results to appear in 1974

PANEL OF JUDGES

The Times is pleased to announce that the following members of the business community have kindly agreed to act as judges of the entries for The Times Awards.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Chairman | Lord Shawcross, Chairman of the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers. |
| Members | Michael Belmont, Cazenove and Company. |
| | Anthony Everett, Binder Hamlyn and Company. |
| | Edgar Palamoutian, The M & G Group. |
| | Sir Paul Reilly, Director of The Design Centre. |
| | Hugh Stephenson, Editor of The Times Business News. |

Each member of this panel has been chosen for his knowledge of a particular discipline which relates to this specialized form of communication.

Perhaps the most striking change in financial advertising in recent years has been the increasing clarity with which a company's results are presented. However, much remains to be done and it is to

encourage further progress in this important field that The Times has decided to sponsor a number of awards for the best example of the advertising of a company's results to appear in 1974.

The conditions of entry are set out below and companies are invited to send their entry at any time during this year.

Conditions of Entry

All entries are free but must have appeared in the pages of *The Times Business News* during 1974. The following are the categories in which awards be made:

- 1 Colour. All sizes.
- 2 Black and white. Half page or larger, or equivalent.
- 3 Black and white. Less than half page or equivalent.

First, second and third prizes will be awarded in each category. Entries will be accepted throughout the twelve month period 1 January - 31 December 1974 and

should take the form of art pulls mounted on board, with a clear indication of the category in which they are to be judged. They should be sent to:

Michael Mander,
Advertisement and Marketing Director,
The Times Awards,
The Times, Printing House Square,
London EC4P 4DE.

Presentation of the awards will be made at a dinner given by The Times at the conclusion of the competition.

Woman must sit her finals in Holloway

By John Groser
Political Staff

There will be no increase in Mr Short's salary for the foreseeable future. Mr Short, Leader of the House, told the Commons yesterday that a salary review would not be right at present. It would more properly form part of a comprehensive examination of the Westminster salary structure.

Mr Short recognized that the allowances paid to members had fallen to a level that was causing serious difficulties for many. He had in mind allowances for secretaries and car mileage, the London allowance and the allowance for overnight stays away from home.

The Government therefore intends to invite the review body to undertake an early review of the rates of these various allowances and to recommend the level to which they should be increased. Mr Short said he thought a review of that nature would not take long.

The body to which he referred recommended in January, 1972, under the chairmanship of Lord Boyle of Handsworth, that a comprehensive review of salaries and

allowances should take place roughly within the lifetime of each parliament of normal length. It did not exclude interim reviews. The Government has clearly taken the view that a salary review must wait but that allowances can be dealt with under the procedure suggested in the Boyle report.

Interests debate: In today's debate on MPs' interests, the Conservatives intend to move two significant amendments to motions tabled by the Government. They are not official Shadow Cabinet amendments although they appear in the names of Mr Prior, Sir Michael Havers, the former Solicitor General, and Mr Edward du Cann. Tories at Westminster call them "official backbench amendments."

Mr Prior and his colleagues are determined that the first amendment shall be carried. It seeks to remove the mandatory element.

The Conservatives will allow a free vote at the end of the debate in the belief that if declaration should be left to an MP's conscience, so should ultimate determination of the issue. Leading article, page 21

10 pm rule is urged for adult televis

Television program adults should not be until after 10 pm, it protect children, the England suggested yet might be better if censure replaced the "authorities' rule" because children to stay up much later.

Adult programmes shown before 9 pm assumption that it parents to supervise children would want discussion paper *Br Society and the Chus*

It questioned what of the rule, the b authorities were meeting the difficult section children from programmes. "It m that viewers can alw their children by off", the pamphlet fact, it is often imp this in time to avoid ing scene, and in advice to switch of question of what the a right to expect (o pect) in a program

Woman must sit her finals in Holloway

What has Koda in common with the R.S.P.C.A

See front page of the Out of Tow Report today.

DID YOUR HUSBAND WATCH TELEVISION LAST NIGHT?

Are you buying Flora today?

Made from pure, natural sunflower oil.
Higher in polyunsaturates
than any other spread. No animal fats.



Spread a little healthiness with Flora.

HOME NEWS

Tory move on closed shop 'a flight of fancy', Mr Foot says

By Our Parliamentary Staff
An Opposition amendment to the Trade Union and Labour Relations Bill to abolish pre-employment closed shops was withdrawn in standing committee yesterday after Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, had described it as "utterly impracticable and another flight of idealistic fancy".

Moving the amendment, Mr Christopher Tugendhat (City of London and Westminster South, C) said operation of the pre-employment closed shop might mean that total control of whether an individual secured a job was vested in a small group of individuals who were not responsible to anyone and who were able to take decisions in private.

Mr Cyril Smith (Rochdale, L) said he wanted to see the 1971 Industrial Relations Act repealed and, obviously, as a Liberal, he was not happy about the closed shop situation, but it would continue to exist whatever legislation was passed. For that reason he could not support the amendment. He would be tabling later amendments to attempt to protect the individual within the pre-employment closed shop system.

Mr Foot said the industrial relations situation would be extremely dangerous and perilous as long as the 1971 Act remained on the statute book.

It was not logical of the Opposition to say that because individuals must have protection against abuses the pre-employment closed shop should be banned altogether.

The Government was having further consultations with the TUC General Council on the matter to see whether in the proposed Employment Protection Bill it would be advisable to have a clause along the lines outlined in the Donovan report.

It was not at all self-evident that the term "association" in the declaration on human rights included trade unions, which were separately referred to. There was no use passing a law offering great protections to the

individual when it could not be put into effect.

The amendment was withdrawn after Mr William Whitelaw (Peebles and the Borders) as Opposition spokesman conceded that as it stood it would go too far in that it could not be worked effectively.

Price control: If the Government did not get a voluntary agreement to hold down prices there would be certain limited fields in which it would feel obliged to take control over margins, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said yesterday.

Because of the technical difficulties the Government would not get a voluntary agreement unless it was willing to show that statutory powers should be a voluntary agreement not succeed, she told the Commons standing committee considering the Prices Bill.

Mrs Williams said a report in The Times yesterday concerning the Government's plan for holding down grocery prices was misleading. The Government was still negotiating with the trade a permanent and rotational list of goods.

The clause in the Bill giving the Secretary of State power to regulate the price of food and certain other goods was approved by 10 votes to nine. Housing grants: Objecting to grants to housing associations burdened with deficits, Mr Ffrench, Minister for Housing and Construction, said yesterday that it would bail out poor management as well as good by providing a general feature bed. He was speaking in the Commons standing committee on the Housing Bill.

Moving a Conservative amendment suggesting the grants, Mr Rossi (Haringey, Haringey, C) said housing societies were unable to raise their rents and were at the same time faced with increased interest charges and increased costs of servicing and maintenance. The committee adjourned until tomorrow.

Changes in law for damage suits proposed

By Our Legal Correspondent
The Law Reform Committee has proposed changes that would make it easier for people to sue for damages for personal injuries received many years before.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Justice Orr, makes the proposals in a report published yesterday. They are designed mainly to cover cases in which the injury does not come to light immediately, or in which it is not clear until later that someone was at fault.

The normal period within which an action for personal injuries can be brought is three years. The committee does not wish to change that, or the rule that the plaintiff was ignorant of material facts giving rise to a cause of action, he has to sue within three years of his acquiring the new knowledge.

It recommends, however, that even if the plaintiff has not started proceedings within the time laid down a court should have discretion to allow him to bring the action, if it would cause hardship not to do so.

The report also lays down guidelines for judges to use when deciding whether to allow a claim to be brought out of time. It recommends a clarification of the principles governing the date when a plaintiff should be held to have acquired the new knowledge entitling him to sue.

Another recommendation is that children in the custody of their parents should not have the time-bar operated against them during their childhood. Time should not start to run against them until they reach the age of 18.

At present children with their parents can be stopped from bringing an action even if the failure to do so is the parents' fault, whereas children without parents do not have that disadvantage.

Law Reform Committee, Twentieth Report: Interim Report on Limitation of Actions: Personal Injury Claims. (Stationery Office, 40p).



Mould of heads of more than 2,000 of the famous and infamous from Madame Tussaud's have been transferred for safekeeping to Woolley Hole, Somerset, famous for its caves, where they can be studied by visitors.

Pornography in the cowshed costs man £50,000

Eighteen tons of hard-core pornographic material was found in a cowshed in the stockbroker area of rural Surrey, it was stated at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Fines totalling £50,000 were imposed on Gerald Citron, aged 39, a company director, who lives with his wife and two children in a £150,000 home with a swimming pool at Thorne Hill, Eton Park Road, Cobham.

Vice squad detectives who raided the farm found 42,500 magazines in the cowshed, as well as 57,800 pornographic books imported from the United States. It was the largest single batch ever seized, Mr Stephen

Mitchell, for the prosecution, said. Mr Citron, who was said to have had links with the Soho strip club owner, James Humphreys, recently jailed for eight years, was one of the largest importers of pornographic material in Britain. He was educated at Repton and Manchester University, where he read law.

Mr Aubrey Myerson, QC, for the defence, said Mr Citron had been interviewed by senior Metropolitan Police officers and what he had told them would greatly assist their fight against corruption in London.

Mr Mitchell said that in the autumn of 1971 the owner of Highway Model Farm, a Mr

Skinner, decided to let one of his cowsheds. Mr Citron rented it for £20 a month. The farmer noticed a lot of activity, particularly at weekends, when there was a great deal of loading and unloading of books.

He noticed that Mr Citron had a number of expensive cars, including an E-type Jaguar and a Rolls-Royce. In the middle of 1972 Mr Skinner was in the shed. He saw some of the books and noticed they were obscene.

"This was basically black market but the estimated value of the arsenal found in that shed was something in the region of £500,000, of which 75 per cent was hard core porn and another 15 per cent obscene", Mr Mitchell said.

Mr Citron pleaded guilty to possessing 18 tons of obscene articles for publication for gain. He also admitted keeping 30,916 indecent books and magazines the importation of which was prohibited.

The prosecution accepted his plea of not guilty to charges of conspiring with Mr Humphreys between January, 1972, and January, 1973, to publish obscene articles in the West End and elsewhere, and conspiring with Albert Edward Crighton to publish obscene articles.

He also denied having, in July, 1972, obscene articles, books and magazines for publication for gain. Those three charges were allowed to remain on the file and not proceed with without leave of the court.

More graduates will have to take non-traditional jobs

By Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent
More graduates will have to look for jobs in areas not traditionally associated with them, such as nursing and secretarial work, by the 1980s, according to a Department of Employment report published yesterday.

It estimates that one school-leaver in five by then will have higher education, and the proportion of the working population with degrees will have doubled from 3 per cent in 1966 to 6 per cent (about 1,400,000) by 1980.

The rapid growth in the numbers of highly qualified young people has not been matched by jobs in business and the professions that are traditionally open to graduates and usually advertised through university and college appointment services.

The Department of Employment said that, for manpower studies that suggested other areas into which graduates will be forced to get jobs. They include managing supermarkets, stores or small businesses, running banks and insurance branches; supervising the first line of factory workers; salesmen and insurance agents; computer programmers and technicians, and nurses and secretaries.

The unit estimates that about half of women who graduate in 1980, and about 5 per cent of men, will be doing jobs that in the past would not have been done by graduates.

A pamphlet called *Higher Education and Jobs* will be sent to school career departments and can be obtained from any of the department's local offices and job services.

Illiteracy campaigns: A young illiterate housewife named only as Margaret, described yesterday how she had reduced a proposal of marriage four times because she was frightened she would have to write her husband's name at the register office.

She was one of several illiterates who attended the launching of a campaign in London, Liverpool and Birmingham to end illiteracy among an estimated two million adults in England and Wales.

Mr Geoffrey Clarkson, development officer of the British Association of Settlements, which is organizing the campaign, said: "Commonplace pieces of writing like application forms for state benefits, daily newspapers, health warnings on dangerous products, even simple recipes are quite beyond them."

A proper national policy backed by national funds was needed.

Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, introduced an adult literacy resources Bill in the House of Commons yesterday under the 10-minute rule for private members.

Employment Prospects for the Highly Qualified, Department of Employment, Ministry of Paper No 8 (Stationery Office, 35p).

Ministry staff to study farms scheme

By Leonard Amey
Agricultural Correspondent

Proposals for a re-creating of the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service of the Ministry of Agriculture are to go to the staff side for discussion. Although under the proposals it will remain a unified service, its professional elements will resume direct responsibility for their work at all levels.

Regional managers, introduced when the unified service was set up in 1971, are likely to be redeployed in their former branches. The ministry's chief officer in each region will be chairman of a regional management board of local heads of the various services. The boards will include regional development officers concerned with new technologies and coordination of programmes.

The pest infestation control laboratory and regional pest inspectorate will come within the reshaped service.

The aim of the changes is to shorten lines of communication, "reflecting the professional nature of the work while securing coordination and interdisciplinary activity where necessary."

The service has to provide skilled advice for the administrative side in statutory schemes, including those of the European Economic Community. The increasing emphasis on development work, which is hoped to intensify still further, also is involved.

Battered boy's mother put on probation

The mother of a baby boy who died as a result of a blow to his stomach was put on probation yesterday for two years for ill-treating her child. A condition of 12 months' residence at a probation hostel was imposed at St Albans Crown Court on the mother, Janice Taylor, aged 21, of Penk, Luton, Bedfordshire.

Her husband, Victor, aged 19, had already been sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment for the same offence.

Mr Justice Mefford Stevenson said of Mrs Taylor, who is going to have another baby in September: "I am quite sure there is an element of, if not neglect, incompetence."

Some things you may want to know about Going Metric.

Virtually every country in the world is metric, or, like Britain, is changing to metric now. And with more and more metric labelled goods coming into the shops many people are asking "when is M-Day going to be?"

The answer is that there cannot be an M-Day. Going metric involves to some extent every manufacturer and trader in the country, and it would prove an impossible task for them to change all their products, stocks and labels on a single day. So the metric changeover has to be done in stages. It has been going on for some years but it will take some years more to complete.

What has happened already?

Many British firms have already successfully switched over to the metric system. Already the manufacturing, building and transport industries have largely completed the changeover and more and more of the changes are starting to be noticeable in the shops. Of course some goods have been measured in metric for many years: films in millimetres; goods in chemists' shops in grams.

Other changes are more recent. Knitting wool sold in grams instead of ounces; paint in litres, half and quarter litres instead of quarts, pints and half-pints. Timber and many DIY goods are sold in metric. Wines, cider and cooking oils in litres and millilitres. Fertilisers in kilograms. In practice most people have adjusted to these changes.

What else has happened?

Many of the changes make no difference at all to the way you buy or use things. For instance cosmetics, shampoos and shaving creams are measured in metric already. So are some canned and bottled beers, fruit juices and soft drinks. For many goods (for example a can of beans) the quantity you buy is determined by the size of the can, and putting a metric label on the can does not affect the contents in any way.

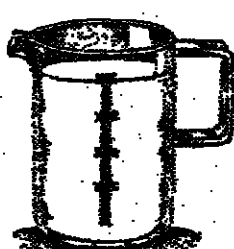
What are the metric measures?

The three metric measures with which you are likely to be concerned in day-to-day life are the metre, the litre and the kilogram.



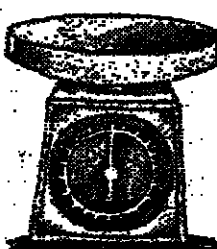
The metre.

The metre is the basic metric measure of length. It is about 3 feet 3 inches. 10 centimetres equal roughly 4 inches.



The litre.

The litre is the basic metric measure for liquids. One litre is a little more than 1 1/2 pints. Half a litre (500 ml) is a bit less than a pint.



The kilogram.

The kilogram is the metric measure for weight. A kilogram is a little less than 2 1/2 lb. 500 grams (half a kilogram) is a little more than 1 lb.

Is everything changing?

There are no plans at the moment to change the way you buy bottled milk or draught beer. For the time being petrol will continue to be sold by the gallon. The timing of changes to road signs and speed limits has yet to be decided.

What is likely to happen next?

From June 1974 most men's and women's clothing is being marked in both centimetres and inches together with the customary sizing. So is infants' and children's wear. Dressmaking patterns have metric dimensions as well as imperial.

The weight of the packs of some foods, such as butter, margarine, tea, sugar, flour, coffee and cooking fats is laid down by law. At present they are only allowed to be sold in pounds and ounces. Before they can be sold in metric, Parliament has to approve a change in the law.

There will be plenty of notice of changes yet to come. The Metrication Board will let you know about them.



Where to get more information.

More information is available from your local Trading Standards Officer or Consumer Protection Officer (Inspector of Weights and Measures), from your Citizens' Advice Bureau or your local Women's Institute or Rural Community Council.

The Metrication Board
22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE

Britain in the Metric World.

Slogans and banners greet Kirk assembly

From Our Correspondent
Edinburgh

About twenty members of the Twentieth-century Reformation Movement headed by Pastor Jack Glass, their leader, waved banners and shouted slogans as the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland opened in Edinburgh yesterday.

They were protesting at the presence of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Argyll and The Isles, Mrs Colin MacPherson, as observer and at the proposal to be debated to invite a Roman Catholic to speak at next year's assembly.

The protesters gathered outside St Giles' Cathedral, and the congregation left for assembly hall to greet the assembly with slogans as "freedom in faith". One banner said "John 1 would turn in his grave at assembly".

The demonstrators then to the main entrance of assembly hall to greet Ballantyne, the Lord High Commissioner, and his suite similar slogans.

In his address to the assembled Lord Ballantyne called for return to the old standards: honesty, family morality, work and pride in crafts. "There is a spirit of bitterness about which I profoundly disapprove and from Christian", he said. "The Right Rev Dr David St. John, a Linlithgow minister, father of Mr David Steel, Liberal Chief Whip, was stilled as the new moderate succession to the Very Rev George Keith of Aberdeen. About 1,300 commissioners, half of them ministers, others elders, will debate wide range of topics during next eight days."

Church challenged: The church is being challenged by a resurgence of phenomena as to the occult which is also on the sway of Satan, the Rev Alastair Ross, Moderator of General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, yesterday.

In his opening address to Kirk's assembly, which opened in Edinburgh yesterday, he said that the church was the logical outcome of thinking that had dispensed with God.

THIS MONTH'S GOOD CAUSES
THESE NEED YOUR HELP URGENTLY

MIDDLEHAM GARDENS TRUST, Lymington. Please help us to provide a mini-bus for the free transport of the elderly and disabled. Please send your donation to: MIDDLEHAM GARDENS TRUST, Lymington.

BACK PAIN IS NOT A KILLER. But thousands suffer agony and disability because of it. Medical knowledge is limited. Funds are needed to support the BACK PAIN ASSOCIATION.

A HAPPIER LIFE for the 125,000 children rattled or with brain damage. More country homes needed where they improve with many activities and contribute to society. **HOME FARM TRUST.**

BRITISH SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR DISABLED. Encourages, promotes and develops sport for all disabled people. Funds are needed throughout the country urgently needs financial help. Please write for leaflet or send donation.

PORTIA HELPS PEOPLE in poverty, depression, anxiety, domestic violence, grief, stress, panic, self-harm, and other crises. Advice services prevent crises happening (even murder). We want your contribution.

1500 CHILDREN WILL DIE from cancer during 1974. Please help us to bring them what we can. Write to: THE MALCOLM SARGENT CANCER FUND FOR CHILDREN.

Donations and correspondence sent to: **Charities Aid Fund**, 48 Pembury Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 2JL will be immediately forwarded to, and acknowledged by the charity of your choice.

CHARITIES AID FUND

advises and helps companies and individual benefactors in the systematic administration of tax-free support for charities.

What has Wrigleys in common with Burmah Oil?

See front page of the Out of Town Report today.

ALIVE ENTERTAINMENT WITH YOUR READING

4 good reasons to read 2 bestsellers

The Little Girl Who Lives Down the Lane

Laird Koenig



THE COOLER

George
Markstein



Master story-telling

'A year old Eliza Jacobs lives down the lane alone... or does she? She might well invite you to tea, but remember... some of her guests never return.'

This story is fiction. But there was a Cooler. Those who know about it don't have to be told any more. Those who don't can't be told any more.

Highly recommended

'...a most original story and should give some readers nightmares... I could hardly bear to read the last chapters.' **DAPHNE DU MAURIER**
'...a chilling climax which is both original and delicately handled.' **SUNDAY TIMES**
'...a tense and sensitive book... it will send shivers up and down the spine and those with Freud or Psycho will find it a spellbinder.' **NEW YORK TIMES**
'...a terrifying, tantalizing novel is a winner.' **BUSINESS WEEK**
'...An eerie tale of innocence and evil that weaves its spell.' **WASHINGTON POST**
'...awarded the 1974 Child Chalk prize.' **COSMOPOLITAN**
'...un ouvrage de haute valeur. Digne de Hitchcock.' **L'EXPRES**

'Excellent realistic British World War II spy story.' **OBSERVER**
'Immensely readable, The Cooler captures exactly the feeling of wartime London and of the terror that harks not far behind the still.' **DAILY MAIL**
'Tense story told with marked efficiency.' **SUNDAY TIMES**
'Thrilling exposure of wartime intelligence secret.' **EVENING NEWS**
'A hot little thriller.' **EVENING STANDARD**
'The question that will fascinate readers and perhaps cause heart-searching in Whitehall is: how much is fact?' **NEWS OF THE WORLD**
'A first-class professional job of spy-thriller writing, full of suspense and sadism.' **GLASGOW HERALD**
'A cracking bitterly cold thriller about spies who can no longer be trusted.' **DAILY MIRROR**
'A tense, heartless fable that hooks and holds.' **GUARDIAN**
'Just cannot be put down until finished.' **LIVERPOOL DAILY**

To be made into major films

'...the filming of The Little Girl Who Lives Down the Lane... an Hollywood with an English girl in the title role.'

A film of The Cooler will be produced by John Wood... The Day of the Jackal - from a screenplay by the author.

Internationally successful

'...in the following countries: America, France, Germany, Italy, Holland, Brazil, Portugal, Spain, Argentina, Japan, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Turkey... also chosen by 7 Book Clubs'

GET THEM NOW THROUGH ALL GOOD BOOKSHOPS

WEST EUROPE

Gaullists lay plans to assert their power in the National Assembly and keep M Giscard to his promises

M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing has retired for 48 hours to a secret retreat in the Touraine countryside to rest after his presidential victory and prepare his future government. But both the Gaullists and the left have given warnings that things will not be necessarily made easy for him.

The Gaullist Party, having to adapt themselves for the first time in 16 years to a non-Gaullist president in the Elysée (and perhaps a Prime Minister in the Hotel Matignon), have begun to plan their strategy. Last night and today, at two meetings of the party leadership, they have given M Giscard d'Estaing warnings that if he goes to depart too far from Gaullist fundamentals they will be forced to "reconsider" their support.

This line was stated by M Alexandre Sanguinetti, the Gaullist Secretary-General, speaking after the party executive meeting. He added: "From now on we must take up our own responsibilities". This signifies that the Gaullist support, which flows logically from helping M Giscard d'Estaing win Sunday's decisive second ballot, will be dependent not only on the new Administration's choice of men and policies but also on the Gaullists' desire to maintain their own particular image in the electorate's eyes.

The Gaullists are the largest single party in the National

Assembly elected last year. Their warning shows that they are fully aware of their power and that they are likely to resist the new President's efforts to move towards the centre.

In the National Assembly M Giscard d'Estaing's own party, the Independent Republicans, are only a small group of fewer than 100 members. This underlines the personal nature of the President-elect's endorsement by the electorate.

However, the French President has an immense power for attracting allegiance as he settles into office, and one of the Gaullist leaders' main long-term problems will be to maintain a unified front.

M Claude Labbé, their parliamentary leader, indicated today that after a general vote by the National Assembly when the new Government has presented its policy next week the Gaullists would decide their "degree of support" in successive stages.

M François Mitterrand, back at his old job as Secretary-General of the Socialist Party, has announced that the left will next week table in Parliament resolutions covering all the promises for social reform made by M Giscard d'Estaing during his campaign which coincide with the left's own programme. He points out that it will be difficult for the new Administration to deny "what 26 million French electors endorsed".

The chief of these promised measures is the raising of the national minimum wage to 1,200

francs (more than £103) a month, which M Giscard d'Estaing promised "from this year" and M Mitterrand included in his immediate measures to be taken within the next six months.

M Mitterrand warned the new President that the left intends to grant him "neither a pause nor a truce" in the political fight as he takes office. The trade unions have already indicated that they also intend to keep M Giscard d'Estaing to his social promises in the election, offering negotiations in the first instance and warning of strikes probably from next autumn if the reforms are not granted.

The President-elect's programme of social reforms (estimated by his supporters to cost 19,000 francs a year, but 25,000 by M Mitterrand's economists), raises considerable problems of financing. M Giscard d'Estaing ruled out increases in direct taxation.

As these election promises now come under such direct discussion, M Raymond Barre, the former Vice-President of the Commission of the EEC, last night pointed out the need for a new Government to take measures to cut back consumption and stimulate savings.

Moscow, May 21.—President Podgorny today sent a message of congratulations to M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and expressed the hope that Franco-Soviet relations would serve the cause of peace.—Reuter.

Europe's new axis, page 20



Elizabeth Taylor, flanked by Prince Rainier and Princess Grace, arrives for the gala presentation in Monaco of her film "Identikit".

Bonn Opposition back on defensive for the first time in a year

From Dan van der Vat

Bonn, May 21.—The West German opposition is on the defensive for the first time in a year, as the two-day debate on the new Administration's policy statement, which ended today, has shown. The Christian Democrats did not pull any verbal punches in their attack on last Friday's speech by Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor. The main burden of their attack was that the new Government had sought to gloss over the country's economic problems and had decided to abandon the reform programme with which the coalition parties won the 1972 election. They criticized the statement for its alleged avoidance of concrete proposals.

But it becomes daily less and less convincing to attack the ruling coalition for failing to contain inflation. A survey by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development last week showed that West Germany had the lowest inflation rate of the 24 leading industrial states. It is highly unusual for an incoming Chancellor to "ad lib" in the middle of a Government declaration, but Herr Schmidt, on being told these figures, understandably could not resist the temptation to challenge the Opposition to see what they could make of them.

The Christian Democrats sought to make capital out of the circumstances surrounding the fall of Herr Brandt, the previous Chancellor, especially the discovery of a spy among his closest advisers. But it was Herr Franz-Josef Strauss, leader of the Opposition's Bavarian wing, who saw the danger of going too far along this path. He went out of his way to defend Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher who, as Interior Minister in the last Government, was responsible for security and came under fire when Herr Brandt felt obliged to resign.

Herr Strauss, in showing such generosity to a political opponent, may not have been totally uninfluenced by the fact that Herr Genscher, now Foreign Minister and acting chairman of the junior coalition partner, the Free Democratic Party, could one day be persuaded to coalesce with the Christian Democrats.

In general, the debate was quiet. The words on both sides were often harsh, but for much of the time the handstaws were half empty. Herr Schmidt found the weakness in the Opposition's case himself when he suggested trenchantly that it might be more relevant to talk about the future than the past, demanded to know what the Opposition's alternatives were and, most tellingly, asked who their real leader was.

Now that the coalition has won a new lease of life by the election of a tough new Chancellor who can be relied upon to give at least as good as he gets, the question of leadership has become a burning one for the Christian Democrats once more.

A year ago, after the six-month depression which followed their election defeat, they chose a new parliamentary leader, Professor Karl Carstens, and a new chairman, Herr Helmut Kohl. What has not been resolved, however, is who will be the party's candidate for Chancellor in 1976.

Gertel Spitz, writes from Berlin: East Germany displayed an apparent interest today in good relations with the new Government in Bonn and announced that it was willing to discuss concrete measures which the Western side would like to see settled.

A spokesman for the East German Foreign Ministry said, according to ADN, that the East German news agency, that the Government was ready to examine suggestions made by Herr Herbert Wehner, floor leader of the Social Democrats in the Bundestag yesterday.

The East German spokesman mentioned the issue of the doubling of the compulsory amount of hard currency that has to be exchanged by Western visitors to East Berlin and East Germany. This has been in effect since November.

The West Germans have attacked this as a violation of the visitors' arrangement which is part of the four-power agreement and have demanded it should be revoked or changed.

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Lisbon left protests at leaders' Brazil exile

From Nicholas Ashford

Lisbon, May 21.—The decision by the Portuguese military junta to allow Dr Caetano, the former Prime Minister, and ex-President Tomás to go into exile in Brazil has brought strong protests from left-wing parties in the Government, including the Communist Party. Dr Caetano and Admiral Tomás were flown to Brazil yesterday after spending three and a half weeks in captivity on the island of Madeira.

A statement issued by the Communist Party today said the decision to allow them to go to Brazil "cannot but profoundly shock the working-class and all those who suffered during those 10 years of tyranny". The leftists, Portuguese Democratic Movement "energetically" denounced the move.

The Socialist Party has also expressed its disappointment with the decision. However, its leader, Dr Soares, the Foreign Minister, stressed that the decision to allow the men to leave had been taken before the new Government was formed last week but was delayed for "technical reasons".

It is clear the junta let the two men go in order to avoid having to put them on trial in Portugal. Many people on the left had been calling for the two men to be brought to court.

This is the first open rift between political parties reported in the Government and the military junta. In its statement the Communist Party insisted that important policy decisions should only be taken after full consultations between all parties.

Meanwhile, there were signs that the wave of industrial unrest which has been since April 25 coup may be set down. Workers at the big I. nave shipyard were due to vote the management late today. It was reported that agreement was near on the main points of contention between the two sides. Several other industries were reported to be returning to normal, but in Oporto there is a big demonstration involving 20,000 metal workers.

Rio de Janeiro, May 21.—Caetano told friends today would like to teach law during his exile. Both Dr Caetano and Admiral Tomás were expected to fly to Rio de Janeiro from Paris later today to meet the Senator Luis Antonio Gama Silva, Brazil's former ambassador to Portugal, a personal friend of the former Prime Minister, said, after visiting last night, that he had discussed a possible partnership in his firm for Dr Caetano.

Meanwhile, the Brazil Government promised permanent protection will be given the two men, who will remain under protective guard for the next few weeks. A permanent vigil will be kept over their future residences.—Reuter.

might disqualify most of African majority by granting vote only to those who can read and write.

The Minister said it would not lead to a meaningful vote impose a literacy requirement voters in a country of 10 million, of which he estimated only 10 per cent are literate.

Asked about the fear among the white police force, about 200,000 strong, that independence would force them to leave Dr Santos said he thought they would eventually return.

—New York Times News Service

models of how integration could be achieved, and cited it attempts to achieve economic and monetary union by 1980 as an example of a target which could not be achieved.

Mr Thompson's emphasis on the pragmatic attitude towards the whole process of European integration symptomatic of the change thinking which has occurred among many officials in Brussels.

Mr Thompson also applied a pragmatic approach to the present of Britain's renegotiation of the terms of EEC membership.

He argued that the main issue in the talks was the question how far were the present rules governing Britain's contribution to the Community's budget.

Bonn, May 21.—Sir Christopher Soames, the EEC's External Relations Commissioner today called on the new leaders of Britain, France and Germany to act decisively in hard times that lie ahead for Community.

In a speech to the Gen Society for Foreign Policy, said: "The new leaders of Europe will be called to that decisive leadership which can only come from head and of government."

Reuter.

try to land there on a launch coming from a French port. They were joined by two uniformed men, a French military Civil Guard, who normally patrol Spain's coasts.

About 5 pm yesterday, according to an official report, persons on board a launch approaching the Spanish coast opened fire with machine guns against the uniformed civil guards. The Spanish policemen returned the fire.

The dead men, according to police, are Señor Roque Javier Méndez Villada, aged 21, alias "The Poet", an unmarried student who fled to France after seriously injuring a policeman in a gunfight in the Basque town of Barakaldo on April 29, 1973; and Señor José Luis Mondragon Elorza, aged 27, a native of the Spanish town of Mondragon, and a resident of Bayonne, France.

separatist organization would

Man dies after three road crashes in day

Rome, May 21.—Signor Biagio di Crescenzo, 40, was killed twice in one day, but could not manage to do it a third time. He was driving his car yesterday morning near Fondi, about 60 miles east of Rome, when it skidded off the road and hit a tree.

A passing motorist took him to the Fondi hospital. Doctors decided he was so seriously injured that he had to be taken to Rome for treatment.

A few miles outside Fondi, the ambulance collided with a car coming from the opposite direction. Another motorist took Signor Crescenzo to the Latina hospital, where he was placed in a second ambulance. Ten miles from Latina, the ambulance skidded and hit an oncoming car. Five people were injured, one critically. Biagio di Crescenzo was dead.—Agence France-Press.

Two Basque separatists die in police ambush

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, May 21.—Police dressed as hippies ambushed a suspected Basque separatist guerrilla group at a beach near San Sebastian, killing two of them and capturing at least one, it was reported in Madrid today.

There were conflicting reports about whether a fourth member of the group, which tried to land from a launch on the deserted Friars' Beach near the summer resort of Fuenterrabia, had been captured or not. A young French girl who apparently had crossed the border legally by car also was arrested in connexion with the case.

The disguised policemen stalked out the beach early on Monday morning, apparently after receiving a tip-off that members of the outlawed ETA separatist organization would

try to land there on a launch coming from a French port. They were joined by two uniformed men, a French military Civil Guard, who normally patrol Spain's coasts.

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Poor response to proposal for curb on TV pirates

From David Cross

Brussels, May 21.—New steps to outlaw the pirating of television programmes sent by satellite were completed in Brussels today. But success will depend on how many nations agree to implement the rules of a new draft convention elaborated during a two-week international diplomatic conference here.

At the end of the meeting, a mere 15 countries, including the United States, West Germany, Switzerland and Italy, were willing to sign the new agreement. Other member governments among about 60 nations taking part, including Britain, have reservations about the efficacy of the new agreement.

In its final form, the convention binds contracting states "to take adequate measures to prevent the distribution of any programme-carrying signal by any distributor for whom the signal emitted, or through, the satellite is not intended". Such contraventions are deemed necessary to protect broadcasting organizations from piracy, which is already technically fairly easy between earth stations and satellites in point-to-point transmissions.

If broadcasters cannot protect themselves against piracy, the audience, able to receive their programmes, could become so large as to make the costs of programme licensing prohibitive, supporters of the convention argue.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MINORITIES

The chairman of the promoting committee of International Conference on Minorities, Michele Zanet, president of the province of Trieste, made the following

OFFICIAL STATEMENT:

"The International Conference on Minorities" plans for the end of May will now take place in Trieste from

10th to 14th JULY 1974

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Conferenza Internazionale sulle Minoranze

via Visconti Veneto 7, 20122 Milano, Italy

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Swedish gunman surrenders after talk with doctor

Göteborg, May 21.—A young gunman surrendered to police today after his doctor talked him into coming out of the chemist's shop where he was holding five women hostages.

The gunman was identified by one of the hostages who threw a piece of paper with his name written on it through an open window. Police were then able to contact the doctor who had been giving the man psychiatric treatment.

Then the doctor and a policeman reasoned with the man for an hour before he was finally coaxed into giving up his sub-machine gun and releasing the five women. He was taken to hospital for treatment.

The man, in his early 20s, had demanded the release of three well-known criminals from Swedish jails.—Reuter and UPI.

EEC talks on Italy's farm trade measures delayed

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, May 21.

The French Government today asked for a further delay in the European Community's planned meeting of ministers of agriculture to discuss the disruption of farm trade between Italy and the rest of the Community.

The request, which would postpone the meeting from next Monday to Thursday, is expected to be approved by France's partners in the EEC. The request was made because M Giscard d'Estaing is not appointing his cabinet until early next week.

The new French Minister of Agriculture will have a key role in working out ways of limiting the damage caused by the Italian decision to restrict imports.

French farm products have been particularly hard hit by the Italian measures.

Our Northern Industrial Correspondent writes: The beef importing trade is asking the Government to opt out of the EEC regulation restricting frozen beef imports. The trade says the regulation could bankrupt many small British importers and shut off supplies from traditional sources.

The regulation requires British importers buying frozen boneless beef from sources such as Argentina, Australia, and Brazil to import an equivalent amount from the EEC's stockpile of intervention beef.

The Council of Ministers were to meet in Brussels last night to discuss the issue. Britain's main objections are that the EEC frozen beef is inferior to that from traditional sources and that the need for it to be thawed, boned and retrozen carries the risk of infection.

The Christian Democrats sought to make capital out of the circumstances surrounding

the fall of Herr Brandt, the previous Chancellor, especially the discovery of a spy among his closest advisers.

But it was Herr Franz-Josef Strauss, leader of the Opposition's Bavarian wing, who saw the danger of going too far along this path. He went out of his way to defend Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher who, as Interior Minister in the last Government, was responsible for security and came under fire when Herr Brandt felt obliged to resign.

Herr Strauss, in showing such generosity to a political opponent, may not have been totally uninfluenced by the fact that Herr Genscher, now Foreign Minister and acting chairman of the junior coalition partner, the Free Democratic Party, could one day be persuaded to coalesce with the Christian Democrats.

In general, the debate was quiet. The words on both sides were often harsh, but for much of the time the handstaws were half empty. Herr Schmidt found the weakness in the Opposition's case himself when he suggested trenchantly that it might be more relevant to talk about the future than the past, demanded to know what the Opposition's alternatives were and, most tellingly, asked who their real leader was.

Now that the coalition has won a new lease of life by the election of a tough new Chancellor who can be relied upon to give at least as good as he gets, the question of leadership has become a burning one for the Christian Democrats once more.

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OVERSEAS

Warnings by Nato and US over risk of Greek-Turkish clash follow Athens rearmament reports

on Mario Modiano, Athens, May 21. Nato and the United States have urged Greece and Turkey to let their differences reach a stage of confrontation which would inevitably disrupt the south-eastern flank of the Atlantic alliance and jeopardize Western strategic interests.

The interventions followed reports that the leaders of the Greek regime were moving steadily towards a rearmament programme for the complete renovation of the nation's weapons arsenal on land, at sea and in the air.

Generous credits from France as well as domestic resources would be used to finance this programme, which is aimed at making Greek defence self-sufficient in the event of a major conflict.

American diplomats in Athens (Ankara has been trying to press on the Government, the military leaders of the country, the risks of the Greek-Turkish dispute over the oil-rich Aegean coastal shelf degenerating into a full-scale war).

Earlier, Dr Joseph Luns, who is watching brief over the Turkish dispute over the oil-rich Aegean coastal shelf degenerating into a full-scale war.

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articles on both sides of the Aegean.

In fact, what is intensifying Western concern is that the Greek-Turkish crisis appears to be moving on two parallel planes which often overlap but also contradict each other.

While both foreign ministers are exchanging ideas and lists about the possible resolution of bilateral problems encompassing their relations, the ruling Greek military are impressing on Western governments the danger of the Turks taking action to challenge Greek preponderance in the Aegean.

The Greek warning that this might provoke a warlike situation follows reports that the Turks are determined to send an oceanographic vessel into the Aegean international waters in the next few weeks to carry out seismic research as a preliminary step for offshore oil exploration.

The Turkish Government claims continental shelf jurisdiction over areas to the west of the Greek islands which lie off the Anatolian coast. The Greeks dispute this.

Already two Greek-Turkish incidents between fishing boats and Navy patrols, as well as a reported accidental Turkish overflight of one of the Aegean islands, have added tensions to the situation.

On the diplomatic plane, however, the two sides have agreed to a meeting between foreign ministers in Ottawa on June 20 to discuss bilateral issues as well as Cyprus; and the proposed resumption of intercommunal talks in Cyprus, achieved thanks to bilateral contacts, is

bound to have a palliative effect.

It is against this desultory background that the Greek regime has been negotiating with France and the United States for the acquisition of advanced weapons systems. According to Western diplomats, the deal with France, worth between £75m and £100m, has already been agreed, but the actual contract has been held up by the French elections.

The contract, which is expected to be announced later this week, would involve the purchase of two Mirage F1 squadrons, two more squadrons of French tanks known as AMX30, and four missile gunboats. In addition to the four acquired in Cherbourg two years ago.

The French deal is believed to be a counterweight to the possibility that Congressional obstacles might hold up further American military credits to Greece for the 1974-75 year. Greece is due to receive \$71m (£30m) in foreign sales credits under the current American foreign aid Bill, and the Greek leaders have opted for medium-range AD7 bombers to replace obsolescent jets in the Greek Air Force, according to American sources.

Although the Greek arms programme cannot be directly related to the Aegean crisis, which is set in a short-term perspective, Western observers regard it as a significant pointer to the mentality prevailing among the military who rule Greece today, as well as of their toughening disposition—which the chances of an important oil find in the northern Aegean have greatly encouraged.

Journalists arrested after Lahore protest

From Our Correspondent Rawalpindi, May 21. Police in Lahore today arrested 24 journalists and other newspaper workers who attempted to stage a hunger strike outside the Punjab assembly building. Public demonstrations are forbidden in Pakistan.

Among those arrested were the president of the Punjab Union of Journalists, Mr I. H. Rashid, and several members of the staff of the Urdu-language newspaper *Musawat* (Equality) owned by Begum Bhutto, wife of the Prime Minister. The newspapermen from *Musawat* and three other newspapers alleged they had been victimized and harassed by their managements at the behest of the Federal Information Minister.

Newspaper workers in Pakistan's principal towns today held meetings to protest against newspaper managements and Government policy towards the press.

Mr Asrar Ahmed, the representative of working journalists nominated by the Government on the recently constituted Press Commission, has also resigned, because, he said, the journalists' union had disagreed with the terms of reference and composition of the commission.

Meanwhile the newspaper industry is faced with a grim situation as a result of an 80 per cent rise in cost of newsprint sold by the Government. At the same time newspaper workers have expressed dissatisfaction with a wage rise recommended by the Wage Board and are demanding bigger increases.

Newspaper owners maintain they could not meet the higher cost of newsprint and also pay higher wages, although the Government has raised advertisement rates 50 per cent to offset effects of the higher newsprint costs.

Australian election results still depend on postal votes Whitlam hopes rise and fall with count

From Our Correspondent Melbourne, May 21. The latest election figures today did little to clarify the Australian political situation. The Government's position worsened slightly as postal votes were counted in several doubtful seats.

Mr Bill Sneddon, leader of the Liberal Party, said tonight he did not claim victory yet, nor did he concede defeat. He was not interested in speculation, only in the votes counted.

On the other hand, Mr Douglas Anthony, leader of the Country Party, said that if he was a betting man he would put his money on the Labour Government surviving, although only by the narrowest margin.

It was reported in Canberra tonight that Mr Gough Whitlam had received an assurance privately from an authoritative source that his Government would be returned. However, if the present trend of the late postal votes continues, it may not be so certain.

Canberra, May 21.—Political analysts today predicted a small majority for Mr Whitlam's Labour Party, but the final result may not be known until the end of next week.

They said Labour was assured of 63 seats in the 127-seat House of Representatives and the Opposition Liberal-Country Party coalition, 60. Most commentators expect Labour to win two or three of the remaining four seats.

The House is elected by the preferential system. When a candidate does not have an overall majority, the second preferences of voters who supported minor candidates are

redistributed until there is a clear winner.

The House system has apparently claimed a notable victim in Mr Al Grassby, the flamboyant Immigration Minister, who has so far polled 20,721 votes.

His main opponent, Mr J. W. Sullivan of the Opposition Country Party, has polled only 14,537 votes, but he enjoys the preference of the Liberal Party candidate, who has 7,737 votes, giving him a majority of 1,553 votes.

Mr Grassby has claimed that he has been a victim of racist groups from outside his New South Wales constituency of Riverina who paid for large newspaper advertisements to give a warning about the hordes of Asians entering Australia. Mr Grassby's wife collapsed at her home yesterday after a telephoned death threat.—Reuter.

Concern in Geneva over Indian A-test

From Our Correspondent Geneva, May 21. The Indian delegate, Mr Brajesh Misra, told the 25-nation disarmament conference today that his country, while intending to utilize nuclear weapons for peaceful purposes, including explosions, had no intention of becoming a nuclear weapon power.

Be this as it may, the delegates of Canada, Japan and Sweden made the point that the technology involved was virtually the same whether an underground test was for peaceful or for military aims.

"Canada's longstanding co-operation with India in the nuclear energy field has been for peaceful purposes only and has been accepted by India on that basis," said the Canadian delegate, Mr W. H. Barton.

As a party to the non-proliferation treaty, Canada must view India's action with special concern. The United States delegate also registered any development towards proliferation.

The Pakistan delegate, surprisingly, had nothing at all to say but this, officials explained, was because Mr Agha Shahi, Secretary at the Pakistan Foreign Ministry, is coming here on Thursday to present his Government's reflections to the next session of the conference.

Government signs with Thailand

Bangkok, May 21.—The Prime Minister of Thailand, Mr Sanya aramkit, and his Cabinet, today submitted their resignation to King Bhumibol Aduldej.

According to a spokesman Mr Sanya said that the Government fulfilled the promise it made assuming office to draft a new constitution and maintain peace and order. They are expected to keep office until a new Government is formed.

Mr Sanya was appointed by the King at the height of bloody student demonstrations which overthrew the former Thai military regime last October.

Panovs want a friendly welcome for Bolshoi

By Kenneth Gosling, Arts Reporter. Actors of the Prospect Theatre Company who returned from a five-week tour of the Soviet Union, sponsored by the British Council, yesterday described a visit to the home of Valery and Galina Panov, the former Kirov ballet dancers.

Valery Panov, who has refused to leave the Soviet Union without his wife, was described by Mr Toby Robertson, the director of the company, as "in a state of total depression". But Mr Trevor Martin, one of the actors, said the dancer had told him he had decided to "fight to the end".

Both had asked that the Bolshoi Ballet, whose visit to Britain next month has been opposed by Equiv, the actors' union, should be given a friendly welcome.

Mr Robertson said the visit to the Panovs' small Leningrad flat—"they provided the food, we bought the drink"—was made without hindrance by the KGB.

"They also came to see our performances and were waiting to say goodbye when we left; that was not an easy experience," he said.

"He wanted the world to know he was not coming out of Russia and deserting his wife, and he also asked that there should be no disturbances on their behalf."

Commonwealth summit to be held in Jamaica

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent. The next Commonwealth Summit conference will be held at Kingston, Jamaica, from April 29 to about May 9 next year. This was agreed yesterday at a conference of senior Commonwealth officials at Marlborough House.

The choice of venue lay in the end between Nairobi and Kingston. Private soundings carried out by Mr Arnold Smith, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, showed that a large majority of the 31 Commonwealth representatives were in favour of Kingston.

The fact that Mr Manley, the Prime Minister of Jamaica, had put forward the invitation on behalf of all four Caribbean members of the Commonwealth—Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Guyana—thereby associating all the Caribbean members with it, helped to tip the scale.

After Mr Smith's soundings the Kenya Government withdrew their candidature and have offered Nairobi as a meeting place for a subsequent Commonwealth Summit in 1977.

Bishops ask churches not to finance terrorists

From Our Correspondent Salisbury, May 21. Two Anglican Bishops in Rhodesia have pleaded with the World Council of Churches not to give financial aid to terrorist organizations.

The Right Rev Paul Burroughs, Bishop of Mashonaland, and the Right Rev Mark Wood, Bishop of Marabaland, set a letter today to the Council headquarters in Geneva reminding officials there that they had not received a reply to a similar letter sent in January, 1973.

The latest letter contains a list of atrocities committed by members of the banned Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu).

It said that events since the bishops' last letter "compel us to plead once more that WCC funds should not be sent to groups of people whose avowed intention and action is to bring naked violence and terror into the land where we serve as bishops. Since that date in 1973 members of Zanu and their willing, or forced accomplices

have killed 87 civilians in this country," says the letter. "Far and away the majority of these have been Africans innocent of any offence and most have been killed with great brutality. Others have been abducted, raped, beaten and disfigured."

The bishops said that for a while Zanu and the other banned organization, the Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu), had received no funds from the Council's programme to combat racialism, but "we have learnt with disgust that earlier this year \$15,000 (£6,355) was voted to them."

The bishops added: "It is clear that this bitter fighting and killing is a symptom of the fact that there are grave injustices in Rhodesia today and our church, and we ourselves, work constantly for a better, and more just, state of affairs and with some little success, though much hostility as well."

The Bishops concluded that acts of sheer terrorism should not be supported by Christian money.

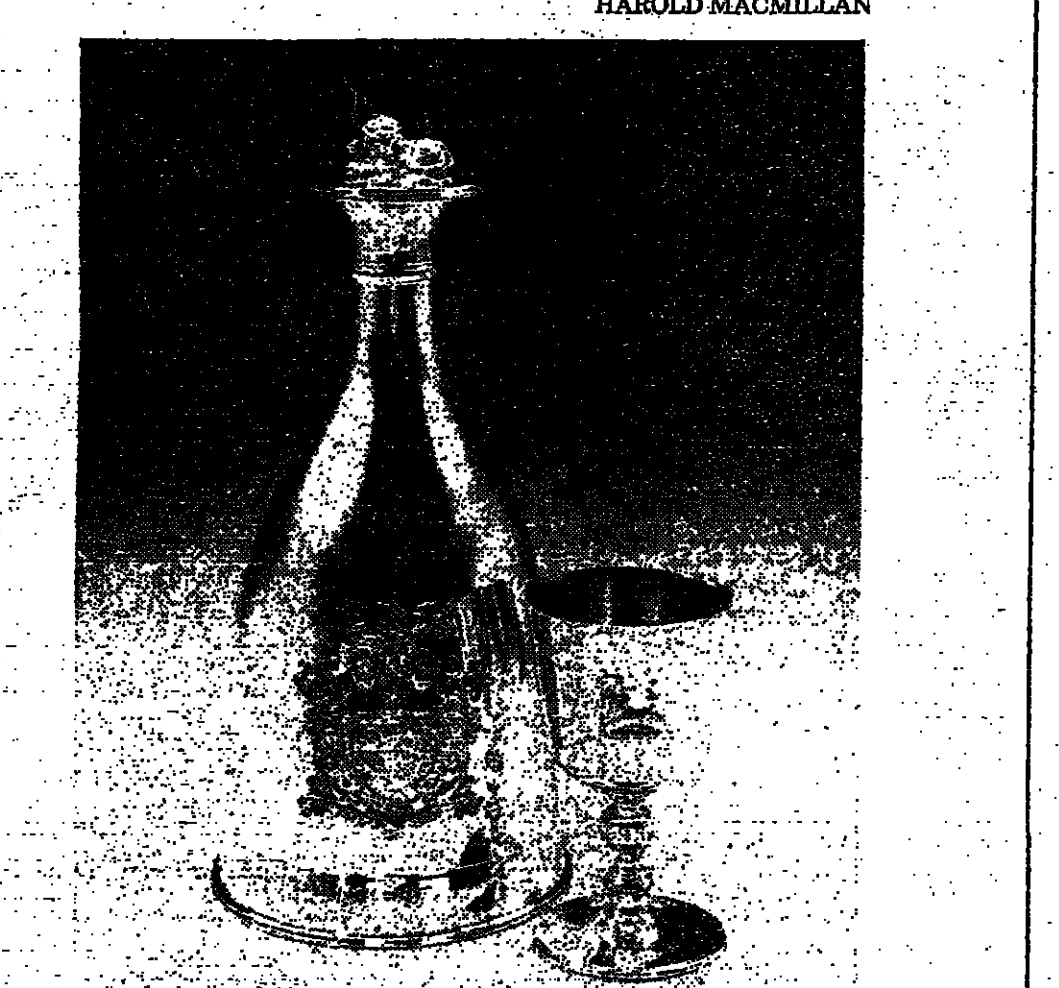
Obstacles to trust, page 20

Syphilis victims get free care

Montgomery, Alabama, May 21.—The survivors of about 600 American black syphilis victims who had been untreated since 1932 have been granted free medical care for the rest of their lives.

The sufferers had gone without treatment so that a team of researchers could study the effects of the disease on the human body. The research programme was abandoned several years ago and survivors sued the government for millions of dollars.—Agence France-Presse.

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Kissinger warning on excessive optimism over peace prospects

Confirming that Dr Kissinger has won Syrian as well as Israel agreement over the line of separation the radio hastened to recognize that "progress" had been made in the talks. How-

Mr Anderson complained about premature reports in Israel newspapers that the line had been agreed on and it is understood that Dr Kissinger made a protest to Mrs Meir from Damascus earlier over inaccuracies.

A Syrian missile is launched against Israel military positions during a flare-up of fighting this week on the Golan Heights.

Prosecutor does whittle away

demands that the his right to arr

White House Nixon

| Age Group | Percentage of Respondents |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| 18-29 | 85% |
| 30-49 | 80% |
| 50-69 | 75% |
| 70+ | 70% |

Continued from page 1

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Prosecutor does whittle away

By Our Political Staff

demands that the his right to arr

White House Nixon

Mr. Howard Hunt

We should not

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From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, May 21

mittee. Thereafter, at the suggestion of members of your committee, I sent a copy of my testimony on this point to counsel for the President, Mr. Fred Buzhardt, who acknowledged its receipt, without questioning my testimony.

I should add that when my appointment was announced, by acting Attorney General Bork, on

Q. Now, the name of the papers, whether they were for or not, would be given access to them. However, if there would occur an impasse, on that point on the availability of any material, that there was expressly without qualification, reserved to you, the right to go to the State. So that would be at a time when General Haig, acting on behalf of the President, or in his stead, would say No

Because the members of your committee exacted from me that promise at the hearings that I would report a development of this nature, I am submitting this letter. Respectfully yours,
LEON JAWORSKI

Correction

Through an error in processing, a report from Washington in the Times on May 18 on the closing of Air Rhodesia's office in New York City was mislabeled. The report, by Mr. Anthony Lake, formerly of Dr. Kissinger's staff, was referred to as an informant. Mr. Lake should have been mentioned only as having produced a long report on the subject a year ago.

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RYAN
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Such a nice girl why is she not married

"Why haven't you got a Daddy?" said a small, three-year-old voice over the garden wall I was attempting (with some success, I thought) to rejoin. A difficult question to answer, but I hope that I managed to convey that the single life was also an honourable estate, and could be highly enjoyable. She appeared doubtful, as many of her elders have been. In *Who Walk Alone: A consideration of the single life* (Hogarth and Stoughton, £2.50), Margaret Evening, until recently a lecturer in the Religious Studies Department of the Gipsy Hill College of Education, comes to grips with aspects of life for those who, by choice or by chance, remain unmarried.

She begins by acknowledging that, in society today, single people are something of an embarrassment, also objects of suspicion. After nine years of close observation over that same garden wall, my neighbours, who belong to a Mediterranean culture in which everyone is married, have at last decided that the Vice Squad is unlikely to be interested in my life. Miss Evening points out that everyone is alone, in one sense or another, in this life, and that everyone has been (and may be) single during the course of it.

It is also true that for many people of both sexes the thought of not getting married produces a feeling of panic, if not a deep sense of failure.

Pressures, kindly meant but ultimately intolerable, on the part of family and friends can add to the impulses which lead to unsuitable marriages and agonising divorces. But it is entirely understandable that no one wants to feel left out.

Miss Evening's theme is based on wholeness and fulfilment in life, whether single or married. The sense of "failure" is one she denies, and has both practical and spiritual suggestions in the Christian tradition to offer. It is interesting to contrast her views with the ten year old best seller *Sex and the Single Girl* which brought fame, fortune and the Editorial Direction of *Cosmopolitan* to Helen Gurley Brown. Mrs Brown and Miss Evening share a basic common-sense attitude—make the best of yourself and your opportunities.

Mrs Brown, on the one hand, is cheerfully cynical in her instructions on how to trap your man, on the basis that every girl should have one—what was never too clear. Love rather than affection featured prominently than the quid pro quo. Miss Evening does not suggest that single women live lives without men or sexual experience, and she faces, more realistically than Mrs. Brown, the consequences of love in life.

For love we must have, and companionship. The author's experiences in the mission field of what the religious call "particular friendships" may seem over scrupulous to the lay

mind. Does it matter if friends of the same sex become so close that they exclude others? This difficulty, she considers, lies at the heart of all close relationships. In families, between lovers and between friends. Can a relationship be considered a good one if it is exclusive? It is important for single people to have friends, and to work with people of the opposite sex. The unduly sophisticated may consider this is not possible, there are no platonic friendships. It is true that it is not possible (or even sensible) to ignore the sexual element in friendships between men and women, but this is not to say that they cannot exist.

If I feel I have cause to take issue with the author, it is over the passivity of her single women. How far is it true that most women wait for men to make the first move? If men are the hunters, then women are the trappers. Nor does she, it seems, approve of the Women's Liberation Movement—"Let us hope that... women may not rob men of their maleness, their role as protectors and providers as well as lovers." Without wishing to involve myself in the thickets of discussion over what constitutes maleness, the protecting and providing seems to be the role of men these days, like the winning of bread. And a lot more interesting life is, too.

Single people of both sexes rarely choose to be so—it happens, as time goes by, that marriage becomes

more unlikely, more difficult, and dare one say it, less attractive, even if one has many examples of happy and fulfilled marriages in one's own family.

The horrors of family life, as observed by the single, are not particularly reassuring. Why do they insist on introducing us to their long lost third cousins twice removed, just in case we might make a match of it, when all we want is a dancing partner? God bless Margaret to Bazaar in *Much Ado*, adding unkindly "And God keep him out of my sight when the dance is done." We all know the feeling. And we have all noticed some of our delightful single friends dwindling in the Millman's phrase, into wives and husbands. We may be defensive about it, but the world seems governed by a Noah's Ark complex—everything must go two by two.

Margaret Evening makes this point, and also draws our attention, and asks our compassion and help for the suddenly thrust into singleness, the widowed, the divorced, and the deserted, who have no love for, or experience of solitude, of silence, of privacy and who have no access to the large circle of friends and acquaintances the single person has built up. These supports in time of trouble, those chatters on the telephone, those companions for lunch and dinner and the theatre, for holidays and excursions, who enrich and

enliven our lives, visit us in hospital, and come to our parties, and probably our funerals.

Miss Evening is almost too good, too serious—while I acknowledge that if one is feeling low and lonely it is ideal to find someone else to cheer up, the remedy can also be to sink into the arms of Elizabeth Arden and then throw a party.

I am also more impatient than she is with a system which grabs a whole lot more tax from the single than the married, and does not consider them a good credit risk, and in other petty ways, makes it even harder for the women who, for example, supporting her parents in their old age.

But then, the greatest danger in being single is not the loneliness but the concentration on self, the old maidism, which can afflict both sexes, showing itself in fussiness, an unwillingness to have one's previous life disturbed, saying "No" to life in a way which creeps up, slowly, with the years.

Miss Evening's contention that the single life can be both rewarding and fulfilled is exemplified in her own. She has wholly dedicated herself to a Christian ideal, and has entered the Anglican Community at Womersley. Those of us who have no vocation to this demanding way of life will thank her for leaving this book as a legacy of her experience in the world.

Philippa Toomey

Fear, like colds, can be catching

One of the many benefits produced by the National Health Service is that every doctor, whether working in hospital or in general practice, has the services of a bacteriology laboratory to help him in diagnosing the cause of his patients' infections. This is particularly useful for the child who repeatedly suffers from coughs and colds, whose mother is often also worried by the amount of antibiotics he has had to have.

There was a time when parents gave the impression that they were demanding antibiotic treatment for their children, but this is certainly not the case today. People are becoming more aware of the side effects of antibiotics and perhaps most of all that bacteria can become resistant to antibiotic action. Allergy to an antibiotic, particularly to penicillin, can develop so that if the patient becomes sensitive to penicillin he can never again be safely given that drug.

For all these reasons it is ideal that a bacterial swab be tested before antibiotics are started in any infection. If the patient is seriously ill the antibiotic can be started immediately after the swab has been taken, knowing that within 1-2 days the laboratory result will be received. If this shows that the bacteria isolated are resistant to the antibiotic being used a change can be made.

The child with repeated coughs and colds is seldom seriously ill and therefore it is perfectly safe to wait for the bacterial result before starting treatment. Taking the necessary throat swab involves only a minor discomfort to the child, and is as practical in the busy surgery as in hospital. In my experience parents are perfectly prepared to undertake the necessary transport of the swab from the surgery to the laboratory, in fact I believe they sometimes find it more pleasant in the care of their child of positive help to them. The result of the test often shows that illness has not been caused by any bacteria, and very often in the intervening two days the child has improved so that the unnecessary prescription of antibiotics has been avoided. Presumably many of these illnesses are due to a virus infection against which ordinary antibiotics are ineffective.

How far has the child been entitled to go in interdictory proceedings without trial? Their Lordships had the assistance of Dr. William Kurt Wallerstein, of Lowndes Square, London, against the order of Mr. Justice Geoffrey Lane, in chambers, in the case of *Wallenstein v. Moir*. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed.

Law Report May 21 1974

Financier's libel writ: sub judice abracadabra used to stop discussion

Wallerstein v Moir

Moir v Wallerstein and Others

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Buckley and Lord Justice Scarman

There is no justification in law for a plaintiff issuing a writ for libel or for an intervenor attempting to bring the action for trial, in the hope that he may gain his critics. The court should, generally, leave the plaintiff to fight his case after trial, the decision whether or not to grant declaratory relief.

The court, in reserved judgments, dismissed an interlocutory application by Dr. William Kurt Wallerstein, of Lowndes Square, London, against the order of Mr. Justice Geoffrey Lane, in chambers, in the case of *Wallenstein v. Moir*. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed.

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company against Dr. Wallerstein on the counterclaim.

Mr. Justice Geoffrey Lane, in chambers, made a strong order and condemned Dr. Wallerstein outright. He struck out the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust. He ordered him to pay £500,000 or more. At Dr. Wallerstein's counsel's advice, he allowed the particulars to be published pending an appeal. Dr. Wallerstein appealed.

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10,000,000 shares in Baird. By means of highly dubious "contra-accounts" the trust managed to avoid any payment in the form of a dividend.

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the Defamation Act, 1952, and Schedule 1. The court would never restrain the use of words on a plaintiff's counterclaim.

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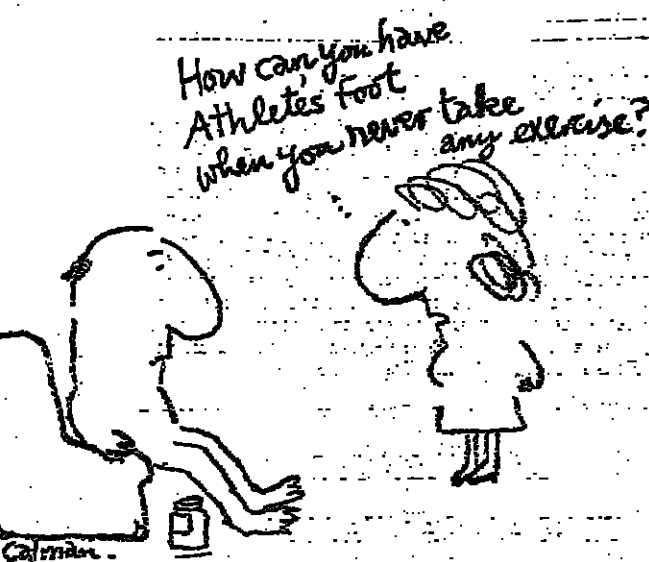
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Hugh Jolly

Dr. Jolly regrets he is unable to enter into any correspondence.

Court of Appeal

When defendant has 'peculiar knowledge'

Regina v Edwards

Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Denning, Lord Justice Asquith

The exception under which the prosecution does not have to establish a prima facie case on a negative averment is not to be applied to the case of a defendant who has peculiar knowledge enabling him to prove the positive of any negative averment. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed. The court was to decide whether the claim for libel and made declarations of fraud, misfeasance and breach of trust, was to be allowed to proceed.

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was first applied to long standing cases of libel.

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PARLIAMENT May 21, 1974

Ban on aero engine overhauls and aircraft spares for Chile: Mr Heath attacks 'capitulation to the left'

House of Commons

MR HAROLD WILSON, Prime Minister (Huyton, Lab.), announcing further decisions regarding the supply of arms to Chile and South Africa, said:—

The Government have completed their review of the contracts covering the overhaul of aero engines and the supply of engine spares by Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd. to the Chilean Air Force and have been in touch with Rolls-Royce since the completion of the review.

The contract between the company and the Chileans provides for termination on three months' notice. The Government will exercise this right at the end of the month.

Conservative spokesmen of "Disgraceful" and Labour cheers.

The policy on spares for these aircraft and their engines should obviously be consistent with the policy on overhauls, and contracts for overhauls will be terminated.

On the issue of South Africa, the Government have decided that the export licence for one Westland Wasp helicopter, delivery of which was outstanding, will be revoked.

MR HEATH (Berley, Sdcon, C) said: "The Government's policy on the supply of spares to the Chilean Air Force is a disgraceful capitulation to the left."

He said that Mr Wilson would exercise this contractual right at the end of the month.

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He said that Mr Wilson would exercise this contractual right at the end of the month.

about the supply of submarines and other naval equipment?

MR WILSON—Mr Heath referred to contempt. If that is his argument, nothing brought this country more into contempt than his attitude to the Chilean revolution.

MR WILSON—The question of ships was dealt with by the Foreign Secretary a few weeks ago. What he then announced remains the position.

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months' work on the overhaul of engines now over here? In other words, as a result of the further capitulation, will Mr Scanlon tell the workers that they must work for three months?

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MR FLANNERY (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab)—It is in the true traditions of the Conservative Party that they do so rabidly support the fascist Chilean Junta.

MR WILSON—There were many European countries, including some members of the European Community and others outside, who took a different line about the availability of their embassies for people who were fleeing from persecution and murder. We have changed that role.

MR JOHNSTON (Inverness, Lab)—The moral basis of the state is that the view that this country should not supply arms to countries which might or would use them for what we would regard as indefensible international purposes. It is the view that we would have been having a justification for supplying frigates to Chile.

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cerned to attack Mr Scanlon than he ever was to attack the Chilean dictatorship. (Labour cheers.) He has got to justify this one day.

MR ADLEY (Christchurch and Lymington, C)—Where is Mr Scanlon?

MR WILSON—He is in Washington, but he will not come back in Mao Tse-tung uniform, either. (Laughter.)

Mr Scanlon's intervention in the aero engines came after the Cabinet had decided on the matter—much later—because it was clear from the statement that the 'blackening had started' long before Mr Scanlon intervened and when Mr Scanlon appealed to the shipyard workers last week to black their work they refused to do so.

MR KINNOCK (Bedwin, Lab)—What the Prime Minister said was that the supply of true democrats throughout the world. (Conservative laughter.)

The Labour Party are the foes of democracy on both sides of the Atlantic. The idea of reviewing our arms policy is a good one and will avoid difficulties like this in the future.

Mr Wilson has not capitulated to any section of opinion, and certainly he has not shown weakness in the way that Conservative policy on the supply of arms to the fascist regime in South Africa and to the fascist Junta in Chile.

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Corporation tax rise should not dissuade firms from investing

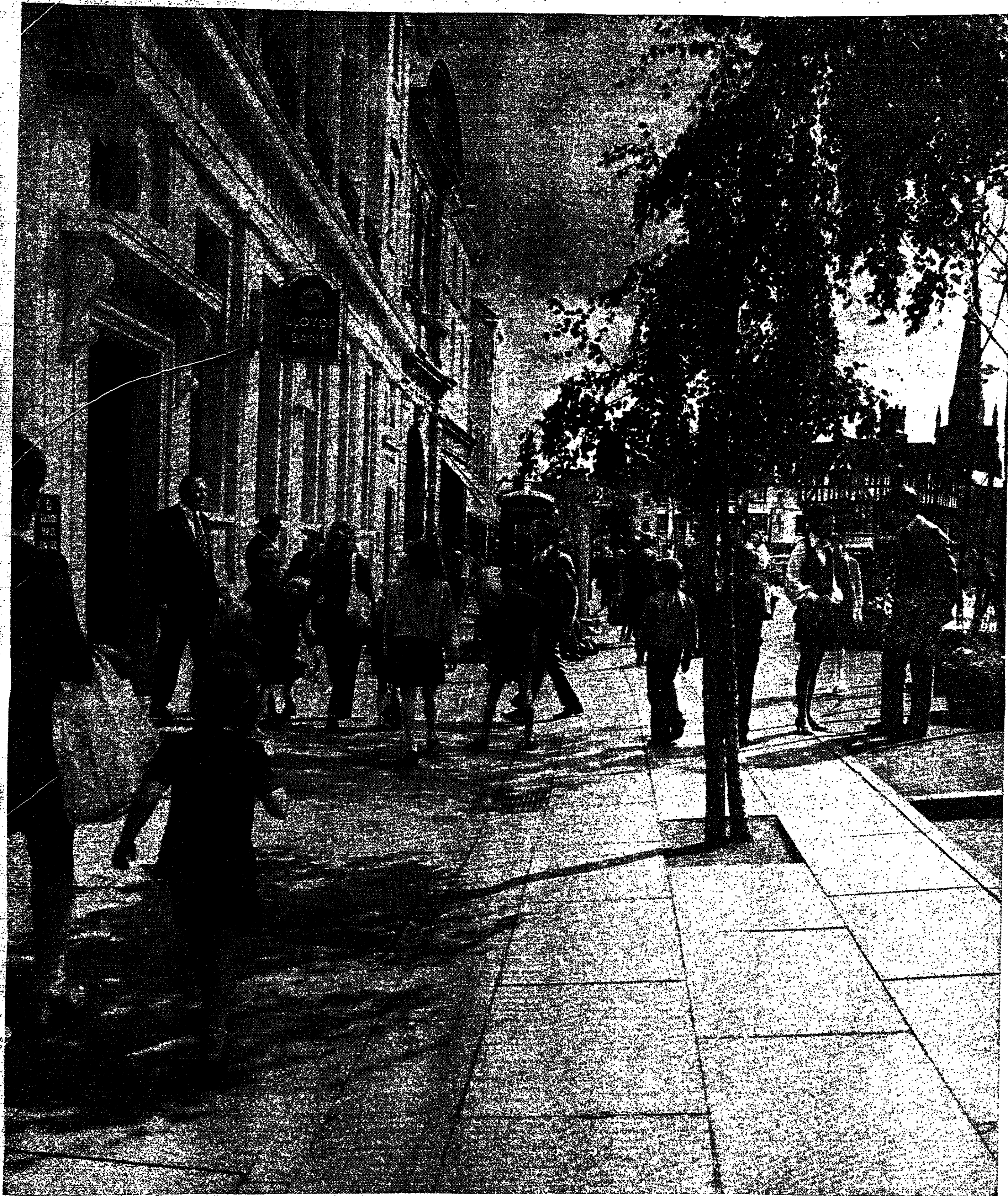
The Finance Bill was further considered in committee.

On Clause 7 (Charge of corporation tax for financial year 1975), Mr MACMILLAN (Farnham, C) moved an amendment to reduce the proposed rate from 52 to 50 per cent.

He said the Chancellor (Mr Healey) had stated that no one believed that "profit" was a dirty word and the Government would provide a new basis for the profits were going to see that investment was not endangered.

The Chancellor had indicated that he would give a boost to demand by cutting the rate of corporation tax from 52 to 50 per cent.

Previously the Chancellor had expressed similar concern and given a boost to



Hereford. This Cathedral City is the focal point of the surrounding agricultural community. Lloyds Bank at 8 High Town, within view of the half-timbered 17th Century 'Old House' it once occupied, is now in premises which have been converted to modern two-floor banking.

Another long-established business here is George Cope Ltd. You'll find this name on four local high-class shoe shops, whose Managing Director is Richard Cope (1). 'I've developed a close and continuous relationship with Lloyds Bank,' he tells us, 'and have come to rely on their good advice and friendly service.'

Since making full use of Lloyds services, turnover has more than doubled.'

Not shoes, 'Just Hair' is the concern of Linda Armitage (2): 'When I started my own styling business last year, Lloyds helped me with a £1,500 loan. It meant I could afford good stylists, good equipment... and now I'm fully booked.'

Jack Haddon (3), father of four, is a Chartered Accountant: 'I've banked at Lloyds for 14 years, and have always found everyone there efficient and helpful. And they even help me when I'm abroad, by providing foreign currency and Lloyds Bank travellers cheques.'

Leading local businessman Archie Phillips (4) runs Phillips Buildings (a firm with £1 million turnover) and three other very successful companies. 'Lloyds has assisted all my companies,' he says. 'The Bank understands businessmen and is sensible about allowing enough time for plans to come to fruition.'

Manager of Lloyds Bank in Hereford is Ronald Pedley: 'To keep abreast of customers' needs, this has become a big, up-to-date branch, employing sixty people. But each one of us likes to retain the personal touch.'

Lloyds - where banking comes to life

Out of town

An end to regional imbalance is the aim

Christopher Warman
Government
respondent

It has been heard of the new Government's views on the redeployment of industry and commerce, and means by which this can be achieved, it is not because they are unimportant. The Labour administration has perhaps not the high place, but the main reason for the apparent lack of initiative is that the broad policy of redeployment of industry and commerce has been the same.

It is in many a departmental document, the object of the policy is to achieve a more balanced distribution of economic activity throughout the country and therefore to make use of the country's resources, notably of manpower.

It has been pursued in the past, and the expansion of industry in places for one reason or another requires industrial development. A parallel objective in recent years has been to restrain expansion in areas where this would place excessive pressure on resources. The policy has been mainly on influencing the location of industry, a primary objective of employment and economic development. The Government have decided to maintain the existing system of regional development grants, possibly with certain adjustments in the present framework.

Ordering and
urried

It is stated, the policy is favoured by industrialists, businessmen alike, but more immediate concern is the manner in which an objective is to be achieved. A change of government not only leaves a new wonder, but also a long-term plan on their part. It is said that the policy is consistent and with a long continuity.

The Conservative Government, in a White Paper on industrial and regional development in 1972, stated: "In order to give industry confidence it requires to see that the Government intend to maintain the new system of incentives at least for the transitional period. Much has been achieved but no solution is yet in sight."

Mr Eric Heffer, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, recently gave his assurance in a written answer in the House of Commons.

He emphasized the intention to "make a sustained effort to eliminate the disparity in employment and production in employment and development" built up over the years between Scotland, Wales, and the assisted areas of England and other parts of the country. "Our broad intention is to continue and develop the financial and other incentives now available for the location of new industry and the expansion of existing industry in the assisted areas."

Mr Heffer said the Government had been considering the system of incentives inherited under the 1972 Act, which gave them wide powers that they intended to use to the full in promoting investment, the modernization of industry and regional regeneration.

He announced that they still intended, as declared in their manifesto, to bring forward a new Industry Bill giving them the wider powers, for example through planning agreements, that were required to achieve their aims.

That said, Mr Heffer outlined the Government's intentions regarding existing incentives "so that industry will have the confidence to go forward with existing and new projects" even the language of the two governments becomes similar.

The Government have decided to maintain the existing system of regional development grants, possibly with certain adjustments in the present framework. This regional employment premium, which was originally to be phased out from this year, is being continued indefinitely while other possibilities are considered.

"As for selective assistance in the assisted areas," Mr Heffer declared, "we intend to build on the system set out in the Industry Act, 1972 so that companies in these areas can continue to receive assistance." The system of regional development is being maintained so that the bulk of cases can be decided in the areas where the projects are to be located.

Governments come and go, but the problems remain for ever. It will yield some as yet unknown bonus. In the future, too, the prospect of North Sea oil offers tantalizing allure. In terms of government policy it remains to be seen whether the Labour Government will, if the chance occurs—much performance with promise. Their election manifesto states boldly that revenue from North Sea oil will be used wherever possible to improve employment conditions in Scotland and in regions elsewhere in need of development.

In the reality of today, regional development and redeployment continue for the practical reasons of cost and convenience, while full

filling the loftier aim of governments in striving to end regional imbalance. The South-east, such a magnet in the past, is now almost full, and redeployment is what has happened there rather than what is happening. The latest annual report for the four new towns of Crawley, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead and Welwyn Garden City explains the change, which itself is a success story. The towns are "an example of thriving regional centres for shopping and of industrial employment", it states.

The commercial and industrial assets of the Commission for the New Towns stand in the region of £55m, some £20m more than five years ago. Now the commission is left with little commercial or industrial land available for development, and the future programme of industrial development is largely geared to the present needs of the towns.

Northern Ireland has problems accentuated by the devolution in Scotland and Wales, and even perhaps in five remoteness. The level of incentives for redeployment centre will be accompanied by a pull from the regions. It could bring about that elusive balance that successive governments have sought.

Need for new
approaches

The manifesto was itself a compressed version of the programme produced the year before, in which Labour urged the need for completely new approaches. In particular, the strategy was to rely much less on general government grants and incentives, and much more on direct action at the level of the big firm.

Unless we do so, indeed, firms may choose more and more to go multinational rather than multiregional—a process which will render our regional unemployment problems even more intractable than at present. Until the Government find time to put flesh on the bones of their policy, the need for and encouragement to move away from the congested centres must rely on the existing incentives.

Although Britain's position in the European Economic Community is being questioned, the present situation allows firms to seek financial help from both the European Investment Bank and the European Coal and Steel Community. There is always the possibility that in the future the European regional development fund will yield some as yet unknown bonus. In the future, too, the prospect of North Sea oil offers tantalizing allure. In terms of government policy it remains to be seen whether the Labour Government will, if the chance occurs—much performance with promise. Their election manifesto states boldly that revenue from North Sea oil will be used wherever possible to improve employment conditions in Scotland and in regions elsewhere in need of development.

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A rural setting for Burmah House, Burmah Oil Trading's offices in Pipers Way, Swindon.

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- THE WRIGLEY COMPANY LIMITED
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- AUSTIN REED GROUP LIMITED
- AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION
- BURMAH OIL TRADING LIMITED
- CHARTER CONSOLIDATED LIMITED
- THOMAS COOK & SON LIMITED
- EAGLE STAR INSURANCE GROUP
- LONGMAN GROUP LIMITED
- THE BRITISH PETROLEUM COMPANY LIMITED

We can help you too.

You can save around £1000 per employee, per year, including lower rent and rates, lower staff costs and the savings derived from reduced staff turnover and absenteeism.

For these and other reasons, over 1300 companies have already moved office jobs out of London.

Location of Offices Bureau
27 Chancery Lane, WC2A 1NS 01-405 2921.

Individual examination only Answer to savings question

David Davies

How much can be saved by moving an office or factory from one of the Government's special areas? This question can be answered satisfactorily only by a detailed examination of each individual concern, preferably in consultation with the Department of Trade and Industry, Location of Offices Bureau.

Nevertheless, it is possible to isolate the main factors of cost saving, but to measure rudimentary savings serve as a starting point for such a detailed examination.

The Location of Offices Bureau case first, it seems to have got into reducing what is really a very complicated business into plain terms. The LOB's sums show that it is possible to save up to £1,100 a year per employee by moving from London, calculated on the following basis:

Cost of offices in London £8.50 per sq ft
Offices outside London £2.00 per sq ft
£6.50 per sq ft
Total space per employee is 120 sq ft.

Cost of space in London per employee is £1,100, which is £6.50 per sq ft. This can be added to the cost of the rental saving, and rates. The total saving is £975.00 per employee. To a degree there are the same considerations, but the arithmetic becomes more difficult because of the wider differences between undertakings. Here, however, is one specimen calculation, which in contrast to the example of 50 sq ft space allows for employee does not

include canteens, car parks or common access areas, of government assistance since this gross figure could and is not based on savings vary widely between firm per head.

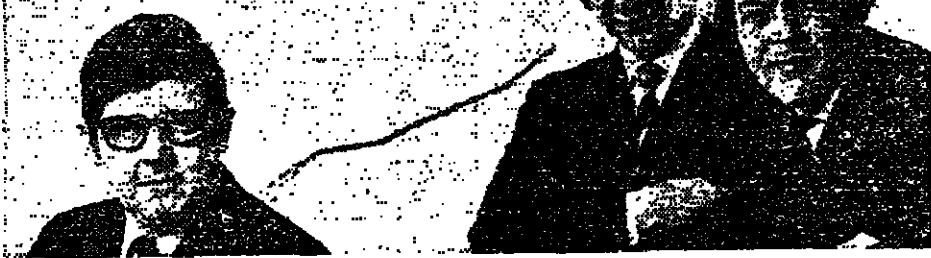
A new project in a special area of saving. The LOB sayside or around Glasgow, says research shows that might involve expenditure of £800,000 on buildings, London, making for savings £500,000 on machinery and in training. There is also less time lost through sickness, while in some areas, staff £1.8m. may either not have to travel as far from home to work or may do so more comfortably. This may mean that employees arrive fresher and more punctually. These cost-saving factors have to be set against the undoubted expense of making such a move, although here there are two points that might usefully be made.

Once and for all
expenses

One is that some expenses, such as the financial help given to staff moving house, may be high but are a once-and-for-all charge, which may soon be offset by the economies of decentralization. The Greater London Council has arrangements with some towns whereby in municipal housing can be arranged.

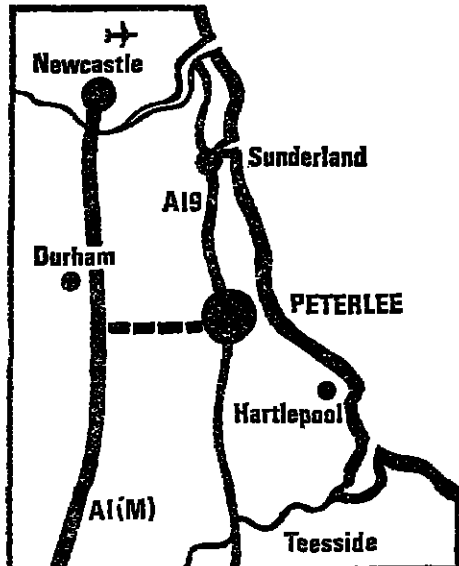
The second point that many of the expenses can be foreseen and to an extent reduced by learning from the experience of others, through the Location of Offices Bureau, which has a leaflet on the subject.

It is more difficult to approach cost-saving factors for industry in a useful way. To a degree there are the same considerations, but the arithmetic becomes more difficult because of the wider differences between undertakings. Here, however, is one specimen calculation, which in contrast to the example of 50 sq ft space allows for employee does not



Lots of things are made in Peterlee New Town that don't figure in inventories or balance sheets. Successful industrial careers, for example; healthy industrial relations based on a happy, well-paid workforce free of anxiety about housing and education; and export records. Because Peterlee can offer the incoming industrialist so many advantages in his

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Success in combining expansion with economy

by C. A. Prendergast
chairman, Location of
Offices Bureau

The Location of Offices Bureau was established in April 1963 as the result of studies into the problems of London. Increasing demands for office space, an overloaded commuting system, and a high concentration of employment in the service sector led to the conclusion that dispersal of non-essential employment was desirable.

In the decade since its establishment the bureau has achieved much in alleviating the difficulties apparent in 1963; organizations which have consulted the bureau have moved well over 100,000 office jobs out of central London, but a considerable amount remains to be done.

The demand for office space has continued in the central area but the supply has been restricted both by planning authorities and by the Government's introduction of the office develop-

ment permit system. With a restricted supply and an increasing demand, rents have increased dramatically in a decade.

When development permits were introduced rents for new accommodation in the central area were £2.75 a sq ft a year, and since then have climbed at a steady rate. Today City of London rents have reached £25 a sq ft, and prime sites in the West End can command £16 a sq ft, increases of 500 per cent and 580 per cent respectively.

Such changes have helped the bureau in its work since most organizations have become aware of the need to contain rises in overhead costs on existing premises. Equally, firms wishing to expand have found themselves facing a considerable burden if they wish to remain in the centre. It is significant that in the past 10 years the two principal reasons given by firms considering decentralization have been expansion and economy.

The demand for office space has continued throughout the decade, and in the banking sector a considerable influx of foreign banks, all seeking a specialized type of accommodation, caused the rent spiral to rise more rapidly in the City of London. In a period of five years 115 new banking enterprises opened offices in the City.

In other sections the demand continued as the economy expanded, but the demands for increased space arose in part from a more generous allocation of floor-space a worker. It is true that while the bureau has been helping decentralization, the space vacated has been reoccupied, but had there not been an outward movement the demand for additional space would have been considerably greater, exacerbating the problems that need solution.

While rents in the centre have been rising there has been a ripple effect on rents in prime suburban areas. In

1963 a move to Croydon was considered a leap into the unknown, but its principal attraction was that it was a convenient centre with good communications and low rents. Today the success of Croydon is demonstrated by fully occupied properties and rents of £5 to £6 a sq ft, a good indication of demand in that location.

The bureau has advocated the construction of three more centres, similar to Croydon, in the north, east and west at points where there are interchanges in the communications network to act as interceptors of inward commuters, but still providing fast access to the central area for essential business journeys. The bureau has been supporting this view by the Layfield Commission and by London Transport; how long it will take to put into operation remains to be seen.

During the decade commuting into central London has declined considerably. The recent figures issued by London Transport show that

public transport carried 1,074,300 passengers in 1963 and 946,500 in 1973, a reduction of 128,400 passengers a day. Private transport carried 139,600 in 1963 and 139,100 in 1973, a reduction of only 500 persons a day. However, car commuting in the same period increased from 77,400 to 89,800, an increase of 12,400 vehicles and 16,900 passengers.

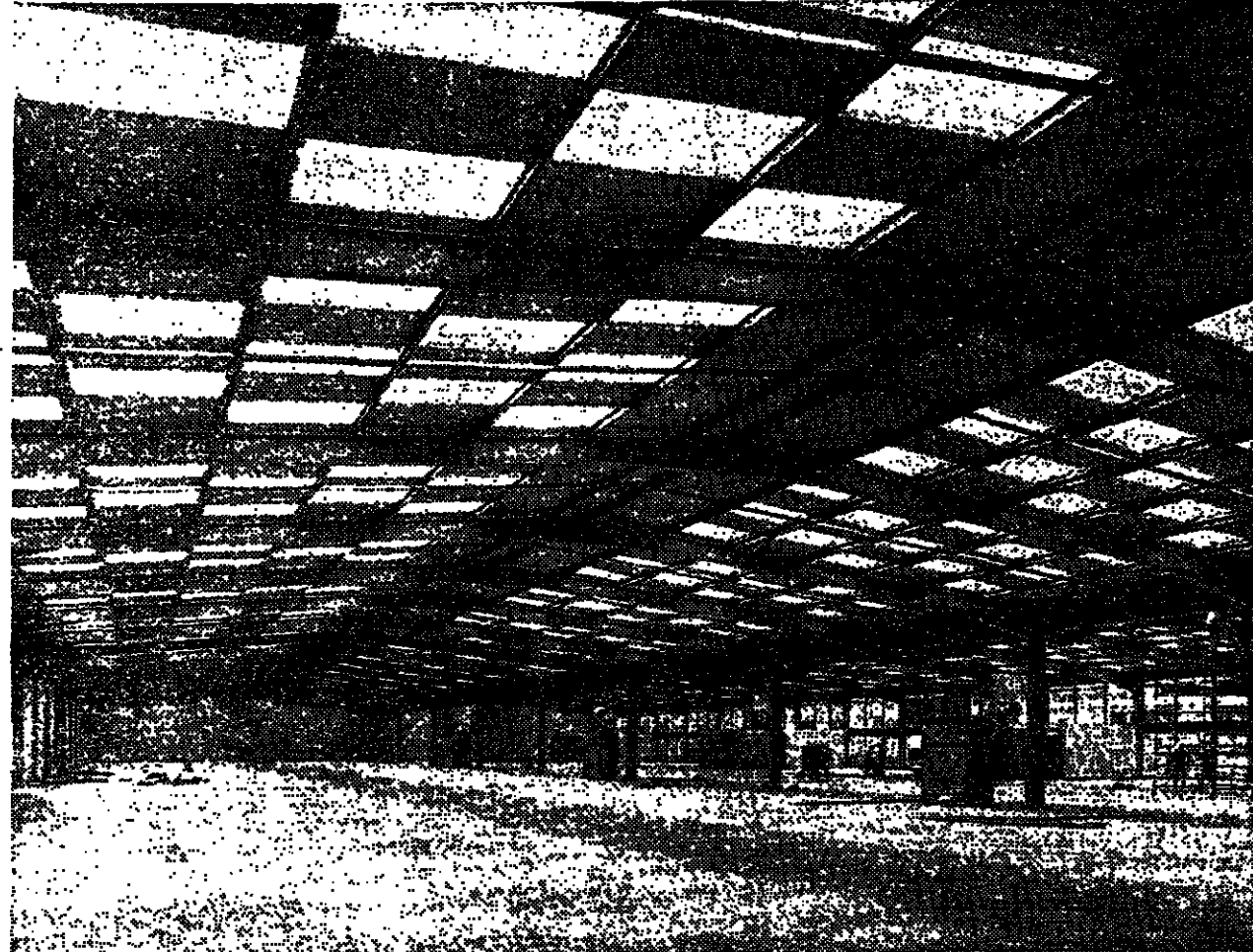
Easing the strain of commuting has been part of the bureau's role, and while the change in commuting patterns has been significant the fundamental problem remains, that a considerable amount of public capital is locked up in a rail network that is fully effective for only 30 hours a week, carrying people to and from work. That such a system remains is inevitable; the bureau's work is to try to help it to become more efficient and pleasant for those who have to commute.

The bureau has always recognized that many firms are, by the nature of their business, tied to the central area and that there will always be a concentration of office employment carrying on essential work there. The South-east of England still has 47 per cent of all office employment in England and Wales, and the greater part of that is London based. As long as London remains a centre of high activity in banking insurance

and other services, the necessary workforce must be accommodated. It is gratifying to bureau to know that large organizations have tried out appraisals of a need to keep staff in London, and many have found that moving part of their business is practicable and in no way diminishes efficiency.

Nevertheless, the measures remain. There is a freeze which has given rise to some organizations related premises. On the other hand, staffing levels seem to grow day by day, and businesses are looking for ways to reduce their costs. The bureau is emphasizing recruitment.

The answer today still lies in decentralization, and greatest benefits will accrue to those who are prepared to move right outside London orbit. It has proved that firms can operate more efficiently the further they are from London. The Government has given added impetus for moves to the areas of expansion, which are being explored in the communications network. The Government has used to cover greater distances in less time previously. The bureau has much to achieve, businessmen much to achieve in decentralization.



The inside of standard advance factories as constructed at Cumbernauld New Town.

Scottish ideas changed by new towns

by Ronald Faux

The new towns of Scotland have flourished in some unyielding soil. The central waist of the country still has a lingering reputation for slums and deprivation. Only recently the Prime Minister pointed to the bleak record of the Glasgow area in having perhaps the worst housing in Europe.

The wounds inflicted by Victorian industry are slow to heal and it is the new towns that have brought the strongest hope to families escaping from the tenements and the socially crippling environments of the old areas.

There is a strong conviction among the new town corporations that it would be totally wrong to follow the advice of the West Central Scotland Plan team and halt the development on forecasts that the new growth may not be needed and that in effect the overgrowth might dominate the town.

This would place Stonehouse, the next step in Scottish new town development, firmly in abeyance even though 30 companies able to employ 7,000 people have already said they would like to move there. "This is before we have begun any marketing exercises", a corporation officer declared. It was doubtful whether these potential customers would have the same eagerness to move into the outskirts of Glasgow.

East Kilbride was the first

of the new towns, if a community which is now 27 years old can be so described. More than half of its 10,250 acres have been left as green belt, the population has risen from 2,400 to about 67,000, and the plan is to continue growth to a natural limit of about 100,000 by the 1990s. The basic aim has been to provide new low-cost factories, pleasantly situated and employing a workforce which has escaped from the industrial bitterness which often characterized the Clyde valley.

It lies nine miles south-east of Glasgow and was originally intended to relieve the city of social and industrial congestion. Like Scotland's five other new towns it is connected to a modern network of communications and is close to attractive countryside. Traffic flows swiftly through the town on dual carriageways, pedestrians circulate in their own areas. It is a bustling, prosperous and attractive place which has escaped the trap of becoming a collection of functional concrete slabs.

There are four areas devoted to industry which occupy about 900 acres. East Kilbride attracted the government National Engineering Laboratory and a government computer centre. The Clyde River Purification Board has also set up office here. In all, there are about 250 companies and 400 commercial and professional organizations employing more than 15,000 people in the town. They make a variety of articles, from aero engines to kitchen furniture.

East Kilbride claims to have attracted more modern industry than any other British new town. Unemployment is now less than half the national average and the work record is virtually strike-free. As the longest established of the Scottish new towns it has been time fully to develop leisure facilities. There are two sports centres, one with an Olympic-size swimming pool, a ballroom and a cinema seating 1,000. Plans have been made to add a big conference centre.

Although some of the original housing bears the stamp of the featureless post-war estates, the newest development combines attractive looks and ingenious design. There is now a positive attempt throughout the new towns to alter the Scottish predilection for rented housing and private builders are showing greater interest in developing plots, while the government-appointed corporations running the new towns report a growing wish among tenants to become owner-occupiers. East Kilbride Corporation has built 450 houses for sale and has sold more than 2,000 houses previously rented.

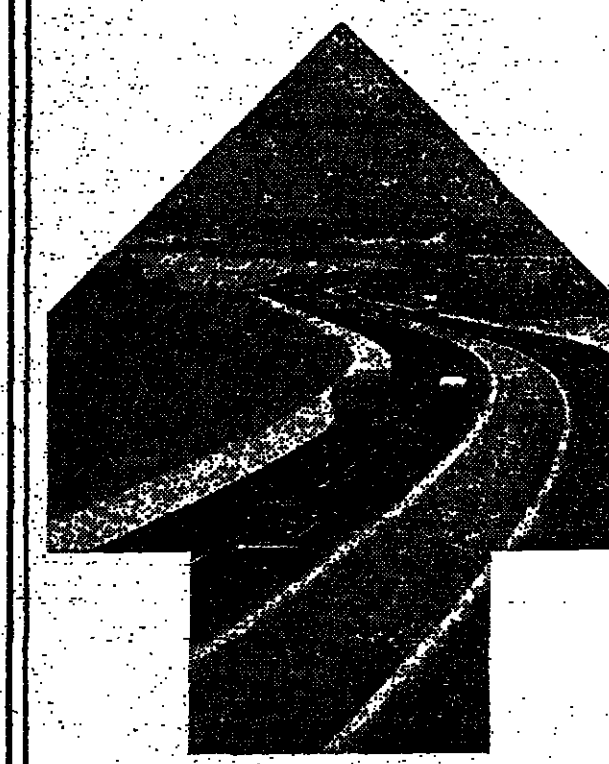
It was reasonable that the successful East Kilbride Development Corporation should take on the task of building up its neighbour, Stonehouse. This will lie about 20 miles from Glasgow astride the M74 and, without becoming an exact copy, will incorporate the experience gained from East Kilbride. Mr. George Young, managing director of the development corporation, is in no doubt about the need for a sixth Scottish new town. Some firms have already established themselves in the area and last year East Kilbride was unable to accommodate some concerns which had been interested in moving in. They had to go elsewhere.

The land at Stonehouse was designated last August and the outline plan is for an eventual population of about 70,000, which will be provided with jobs, homes, schools, shops and other amenities. Four industrial areas would contain the bulk

of employment for an initial target of 30,000.

Perhaps the most serious political problem facing the new town movement is that the more successful it becomes in mopping up all available industry the more will be the vacuum created in Glasgow, which desperately requires a strong belt of industry to assure its own prosperity. Added to this is the question of cost.

The development corporation is reluctant to give an exact price, but it is clear that to transform Stonehouse from green fields into a prosperous new town will be several times more costly than developing East Kilbride. Delay, it is feared, could mean that inflation would make the Stonehouse plan unrealistically expensive.



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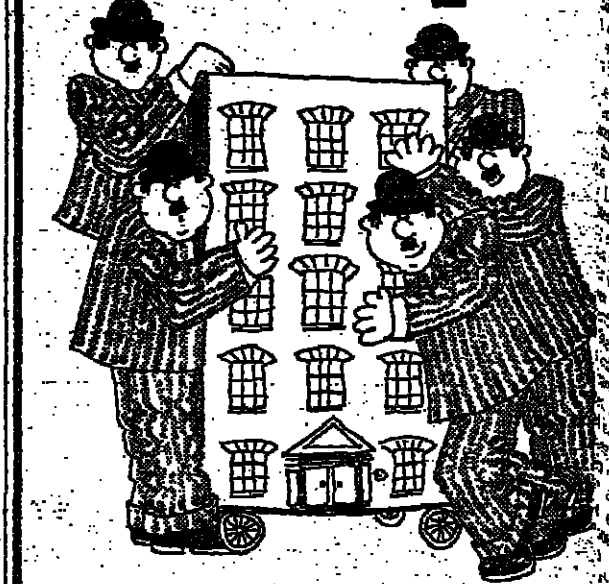
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North-west balance sheet after 10 years' effort

John Chartres

It is almost exactly 10 years since the first brick of Skelmersdale New Town was laid and since 7,000 acres of estuary were designated as site of Runcorn New Town.

This is, therefore, as good a moment as any to assess the success or otherwise of a planning policy that was born from the start to have a profound effect on the life of the densely populated North-west region which has always had more than its fair share of environmental problems.

Skelmersdale and Runcorn are now going through a period of rapid growth and change, where the old and the new are being measured in terms of the needs of human lives, everything has happened so fast that it is difficult to say whether it is a success or a failure. It is, however, a fact that the region is now a more vibrant and more fit to live in than it was 10 years ago.

Mr John Peak, the Industrial Development Officer, is pleased with the present total of nearly 120 firms which are either in production or have announced a firm intention to move to the town.

Mr Peak feels that he can sell Skelmersdale to industrialists on three main counts: the town's excellent communications position, particularly in relation to motorway and air links; the various government financial incentives; and the availability of good quality labour.

Mr Peak also emphasises the third point as he is a strong defender of the quality of the Merseyside worker who he thinks has been grossly maligned by a general image that has been created, particularly in the South-east, in which the Liverpool area and industrial garrisons have become somewhat synonymous phrases.

In fact Skelmersdale's industrial relations have been exemplary, with an average of no more than one stoppage in 50 people for more than two or three days. Some of the difficulties did happen at one of the town's largest units, Courtauld's weaving factory, but these now seem to have been permanently resolved to the extent that the company has increased its labour force as a proof of its confidence in the future.

The development corporation goes out of its way to carry out periodic self-examinations in the form of yearly social surveys. The latest one shows that 84 per cent of people moving to Skelmersdale were "happy" or "very happy" with their move. The predominant unfavourable comments concern bus services, shopping facilities and the size of the dog population.

The criticism of shopping facilities has probably now been largely offset by the recent opening of the first phase of The Concourse, a complete covered shopping centre linked to cinemas and a swimming pool and served by direct bus routes.

Runcorn was, when designated, one of the first new towns designed to be grafted on to an existing community of substantial size. One distinguished North-west writer recently remarked that it was really first designated as a New Town by a somnolent British tribe called the Cenghe late 1960s and there is in ap 76 and that it was first

developed by Princess Aethelflaed, who built a fort called Runcorn in AD 915.

Nevertheless, until 1964 Runcorn was a little-known township of some 25,000 souls on the south bank of the Mersey estuary, noted principally for its leather tanning industry, a most extraordinary transporter bridge which was its main link to the nearest population centre of Liverpool, and for the small which waited across the mud flats from the Widnes chemical works.

The master plan devised by Professor Arthur Ling was a bold one and has been followed up by equally bold executive decisions.

Professor Ling's plans were based on the topography of the designated area, consisting of a flat plain bordering the banks of the Mersey, inland of which were three ridges running from north to south.

The essence of his plan was to put industry on the flat ground, homes on the ridges, so that the homes would have views and full use could be made of the sloping ground to provide access to decked terraces of maisonettes.

Another fundamental part of the master plan was to build the town around a pre-conceived road system.

One of the results of this approach is that Runcorn can now claim to have the most efficient bus services in Europe, a figure-eight busway, from which all other traffic is excluded, serving the whole community.

Runcorn's population has now reached about 45,500 and 7,000 jobs have been provided. There has been some friction between the new town and the old, most of it based on an inevitable envy of all good things appearing to go to the new residents, but this sort of

thing will probably have to be lived with whenever a new town is grafted on to an existing community.

There have been internal problems, too. Hardly a week goes by without the highly competitive local papers reporting some sort of grievance, usually accompanied by a petition or a deputation, and the outside visitor (as indeed in Skelmersdale) is apt to be a little depressed at the lack of evidence of spontaneous life and bustle.

The lack of bustle is, of course, the direct result of the total separation of pedestrians from wheeled traffic and takes a little getting used to. Most residents say they prefer being without the rush and the street noises and without the road accidents.

Certainly to one who has spent a lot of time recently in the North-west's two New Towns and in the less advertised areas of the old Merseyside there is little doubt that a better way of life has already been created for nearly 50,000 people by the creation of Skelmersdale and Runcorn. By the 1980s that figure should be approaching 200,000 so that the whole operation seems to have been particularly worth while.

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Busway and car parks of the shopping city of Runcorn New Town open a northern view to Halton village.

London expansion into existing communities

Ill Deacon

New Locations

Writer of publicity and optional money spent on overruns of various areas and New Towns, the successful expanding scheme which has been on in one form or another for the best part of half a century.

At its beginnings in the 20s when large estates were built in the West End, the places such as Second Morden. Located or 10 miles from the of London, these were thought to be a way out for people to escape the congestion of the central area.

With vastly improved communications—road, rail, electronic—companies moving as far as Scotland, the and Wales. In fact, the GLC's expanding scheme in the West End, 234 miles from London and Plymouth, 211 miles from London, and each attracts its share of industry and from London.

At the New Towns Act 1964 and so began the generation of New for the Greater London. At the same time mer London County started building major estates outside the city such as water in Surrey, Harefield and Boreham in Hertfordshire. Unusually the provision of industry did not go hand in hand with homes, and often lagged behind, so paralyzing one of the main objects.

One of the most important planning factors in firms' decisions about decentralization is the strong belief that vital personal contacts with clients, suppliers and advisers—in fact the pool of information that can be readily tapped in Central London—would be lost if the firm were to move too far away.

Such fears become increasingly significant as the amount of routine work—that involving little communication with other firms—available for decentralization declines. And even in the case of routine work there may be problems of communications with head office.

The words "belief" and "fears" are used advisedly because there is very little hard evidence about the impact of relocation on office communication patterns. While emphasizing the importance of communication factors, many Central London firms have little detailed knowledge about their existing contact patterns—who talks to whom about what and where. An attempt has been made recently to answer some of these questions for

Corporation running Milton Keynes will assume responsibility. The towns range in size from Sandy, Bedfordshire, and Brandon and Millersville, Suffolk, to the gems such as Plymouth and Swindon.

They are scattered mainly in East Anglia and immediately north of London with the nearest, Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire, and Wokingham in Essex, both being 40 miles from London. Apart from Bodmin and Plymouth, they average about 70 miles from London and so most allow a full day to be spent in London by directors when required.

With such a variety of towns and locations few companies considering moving to an expanding town fail to find one where the amenities appeal to staff and the location and industrial facilities appeal to management. Many companies, naturally, decide against moving, while those that do move can take about two years between initial contact and final move.

Most of the companies moving to expanding towns are from London. They move for a variety of reasons—compulsory purchases and the simple need to expand at rents they can afford being the two most common, while the necessity

for suitable staff is also high and finally visits to the chosen town for the company's staff and their families. GLC staff will continue to provide other information about the town together with confidential interviews with staff if required.

To help the company decide which expanding town best suits its needs, the Industrial Centre's experts will, for instance, look at the expanding town's route flows of materials coming in and products going out, and of course, which towns have the required land and services and housing conditions in which the companies and small firms which are at present in inadequate or outdated accommodation in London could profitably move to an expanding town.

Virtually all those that do find they have better staff relationships, a lower staff turnover, and often expand in far more pleasant surroundings within a fairly short time.

With all the skill of the Industrial Centre to call on, companies do not need to be their own relocation consultants or send directors throughout the country wasting time looking at towns which will not meet their requirements.

Staffing problems for those companies moving are also minimized by the GLC's

selection register. This contains the names of about 20,000 breadwinners, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled, who wish to move from London to an expanding town.

The company's staff requirements are checked against this register and if the company, the receiving local authority and the worker reach agreement he then joins the staff of the moving company and also—like the company's original workers—is allocated a house in the expanding town.

Priority for filling vacancies with companies when they move is given to the receiving town's unemployed. This also applies once the company wishes to obtain more workers after moving. If it is unable to match its requirements locally it can then contact the GLC again and select workers from the Industrial Selection List, as the register is called.

In this way companies in the expanding towns have a large reservoir of workers on which to call, and so help the GLC move about 15,000 Londoners out each year to the various towns, where they can obtain decent housing and live and work in far better surroundings than is usually possible in London.

a sample of small and large companies at present in Central London. The information was obtained using specially designed contact diaries.

While this information is an essential prerequisite for estimating the probable effects of decentralization on business communications, it is still difficult to predict exactly what will happen to existing contacts if a particular office is relocated. There are a number of possibilities.

Some contacts will be maintained with Central London firms but will involve longer journeys or the increased use of existing or new forms of telecommunication. In the long run some former contacts will no longer occur or will be replaced by new links in the decentralized location. For example, a local accountant may provide services originally supplied by a London firm.

Whatever happens in detail, decentralization is certain to involve a change in communication behaviour that will have more far-reaching consequences than those represented by changes in direct communication costs such as telephone bills, fares

and travel time. This is because contact patterns with other firms and other parts of the organization located elsewhere ultimately define the role of a particular office within the company.

While it is extremely difficult to predict exactly the changes in communication behaviour that will result from the decentralization of a particular office, the experience of firms that have already relocated can provide an important guide, especially if these contact patterns are compared with those of similar firms that have remained in London.

A study has just been completed at the London School of Economics for the Location of Offices Bureau in which the communications behaviour of a number of firms that have moved out of London have been compared with similar contact data from the survey of Central London offices mentioned previously.

Comparing the two sets of contact data suggests that individuals in nearly every type of decentralized department communicate in a different way from their counterparts who have remained in London. This applies to the number and geographical distribution of contacts, the relative importance of meetings and tele-

phone calls, the features of the contacts themselves, and the time spent in travel. Some of these differences are related particularly to the distance moved.

Individuals in decentralized offices have on average one meeting a week with people from other firms compared with an average of 3.6 meetings in Central London. Not surprisingly, greater use is made of the telephone outside London, especially for contacts with other departments of the firm located elsewhere. It is in this area of internal communication—when all departments can be provided with the appropriate equipment—that the characteristics of existing contacts suggest there is further scope for the substitution of new forms of telecommunication, document transmission and audio conferences in particular.

While such substitution may reduce some of the time spent on travel connected with internal business, it is unlikely to reduce travelling connected with external contacts—that is until new telecommunication devices are more widely adopted. Nevertheless there must be a particular demand for such facilities in decentralized offices where 76 per cent of

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Changing patterns to maintain contact

by John Goddard

London School of Economics and Political Science

One of the most important planning factors in firms' decisions about decentralization is the strong belief that vital personal contacts with clients, suppliers and advisers—in fact the pool of information that can be readily tapped in Central London—would be lost if the firm were to move too far away.

Such fears become increasingly significant as the amount of routine work—that involving little communication with other firms—available for decentralization declines. And even in the case of routine work there may be problems of communications with head office.

The words "belief" and "fears" are used advisedly because there is very little hard evidence about the impact of relocation on office communication patterns. While emphasizing the importance of communication factors, many Central London firms have little detailed knowledge about their existing contact patterns—who talks to whom about what and where. An attempt has been made recently to answer some of these questions for

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continued on page IV

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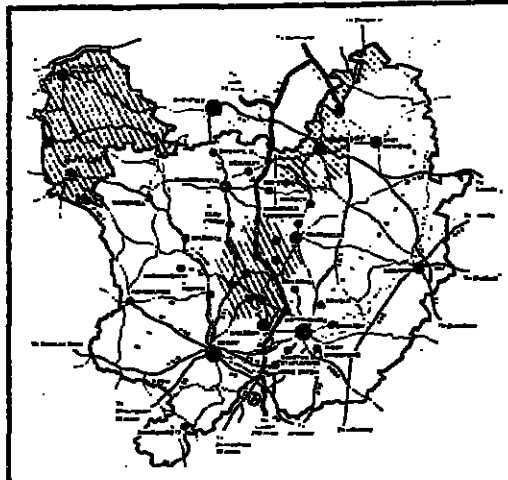
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The Dutch show a sturdy resistance to being moved

by Sue Masterman

The Dutch are a paradoxical people, and the way in which they distribute their business activities is perhaps one of the best illustrations of this paradox. Throughout the centuries traders from Holland have spanned the world in their search for new markets and fresh supplies.

The mobility of the Dutch can also be seen in the fairly large proportion they have in the immigrant populations of many young countries. Yet back home the Dutch Government faces an almost impossible task in getting the population to accept the necessity to spread industry and housing over a larger area than where it is now concentrated.

Holland is not the same as The Netherlands, as many an irritated contributor to the latter pages hastens to point out every time the two are confused. Holland, divided into two provinces, the north and the south, is only the western coastal area of The Netherlands. There are nine more provinces, all of which share a fair share of the country's industrial and associated activities.

But most Dutch industry and commerce and, automatically, a large section of the population is concentrated in the provinces of north and south Holland and in Utrecht which borders on to that area. More than four million of the 13,500,000 of the population are concentrated there.

The north of The Netherlands, and in particular the province of Groningen and the area around the port of Delfzijl, is crying out for new industrial blood. The traditional industries, such as paper and pulp, have had a rough ride in the EEC. Yet despite all government efforts to attract the oil refineries and the chemical

industry to the ready-prepared industrial sites, there has been little movement.

In the south and the east the textile industry can no longer compete with Italian and East European manufacturers, and is either fading away or moving abroad where labour is cheaper and more available. The Dutch Government has made various attempts, especially since the closure of the coal-mines, to bring more jobs to the regional areas. But it is easier to replant a 100-year-old oak tree than it is to uproot a Dutchman and try to move him 100 miles from home against his will.

The present Dutch Government is the first since the last war to be dominated by the Socialists. The Government promised before it took office just over a year ago that it would bring work to the regional areas. It showed its teeth by promptly pushing through legislation to sanction an investment levy on new industrial and office building in the Randstad—the densely-populated triangle between Rotterdam, Amsterdam and The Hague. The levy, a proposed 25 per cent, should go into operation in the autumn but the chances of it ever being implemented look small.

The introduction of the levy has had precisely the reverse effect to that intended. The prospect of a levy has pushed up property prices, and encouraged builders, many of them British sponsored, to speculate in office buildings in the Randstad. The result of an office-capacity practically everywhere except in Rotterdam where 70,000 sq metres are available.

In The Hague area there are 160,000 sq metres awaiting a tenant, and in the Amsterdam area 300,000 sq metres enough to supply the predicted demand for the next four years.

Here again the reluctance to decentralize plays an important role. In Rotterdam, which had to be completely rebuilt after the bombardment during the last war, the new property has kept pace with the demolition of the remainder of the old. The spread of the city centre was made easier since the city had to be completely replanned.

In The Hague, where planning has stagnated in a battle between land and property magnates and the city council, the new buildings are mostly outside the centre, since the redevelopment of the centre is in the hands of parties who have been at loggerheads for the past decade.

Successive governments have insisted on moving government departments out to the provinces, and other services such as the office of the public prosecutor, the office of the civil servants, however, is either not up to modern office standards or too decrepit to be renovated.

The inability of the city council to replace the old building with a new one in the conglomerate where more far-sighted local councils, in particular in Rijswijk, have seen the demand approaching. The result is a concentration of clean industrial development and offices in a chain around The Hague.

Amsterdam has another problem. Here the city council has a firm grip on the situation, but has decided that no more housing in the city centre will be sacrificed so that new offices can be built. This means that the property in the centre has been entirely taken up, and there is fierce competition for any property of this type that comes onto the market. The property builders thus concentrate on the suburbs, in particular Amstelveen

and Buiksvelde, as close as possible to the airport. But they did not calculate on the chauvinism of the Amsterdam population, who cannot resist the attraction of the atmosphere of their city within the small boundaries of the network of canals. People are understandably reluctant to move out, and foreign firms which rent offices in the suburbs find it difficult to keep their staff.

The failure of the property builders to design imaginative alternatives in the Amsterdam neighbourhood has increased the problems in the area. The concrete jungle estates, without social facilities and the normal quota of pubs, cinemas, and shops around which the life of a community rotates, has promoted the trend to try to get back into the city.

It is understandable in a country where 60 per cent of the housing was damaged or destroyed during the last war that priority has been given first to putting a roof over people's heads and providing the fringe benefits later, but The Netherlands is now one of Europe's most prosperous countries and its citizens would rather see their welfare increased than their wealth.

The reluctance to migrate also affects the regional situation. While those in the west of the country are reluctant to take the work out to the provinces, the unemployed in the provinces are equally reluctant when it comes to moving a few miles to fill a vacancy.

The result has been that Dutch shipyards, steelworks and other industries needing unskilled or semi-skilled labour have had to import foreign workers, while Dutch labour with precisely the skills required is out of work in the next town but stands on its right under Dutch law not to be forced to move.

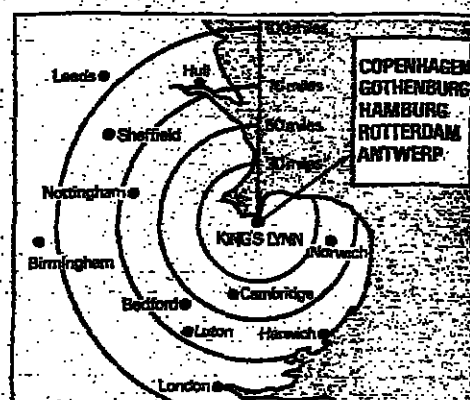
There has been one notice-able trend to move out of town. Dutch authors, artists and other intellectuals tend to forsake the cities and take up isolated country farms, in turn abandoned by the farming community as more and more are encouraged under EEC agricultural policy to leave the land.

There was also a tendency for the more wealthy to buy dispersed farms as weekend effort to move their country homes. Now that the tax authorities have started investigating the sources of wealth, even those who own such luxuries, there is a sudden slump in the old town but out of the farm market. Only recently try-

the number of people able to afford to live in the town. Dutch authors, artists and other intellectuals tend to forsake the cities and take up isolated country farms, in turn abandoned by the farming community as more and more are encouraged under EEC agricultural policy to leave the land.

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Dispersal in the corridors of power

by Alan Bailey and Carol Cathcart

Dispersal is not new to the Civil Service. This point was made by the Conservative Government last June, in a statement which prefaced Sir Henry Hardman's report on the dispersal of government work from London.

Apart from the substantial relocations before and during the Second World War, there has been a considerable movement of work away from London.

The movement has been most marked during the 10 years after the earlier dispersal review undertaken

by Sir Gilbert Flemming in 1962-63. As a result, more than one third—about 57,000—of all headquarters staff already works outside London. Another 23,000 posts have moved since 1963 while, under the plans for further dispersal, some 6,800 more posts are to leave the capital.

In addition, about 10,000 posts in government organisations have been set up outside London and another 10,600 are to follow. In the non-industrial Civil Service as a whole, seven staff in 10 work outside London. Mr Clive Priestley, assistant secretary of the Civil Service Department, underlines the importance of these figures. Of the 140,000 civil servants based in London, not all of them are potentially dispersible. Such posts as museum and gallery attendants must obviously stay with the museums and galleries—and so far no one has suggested any wholesale transfer of these to Wick or Aberystwyth. The actual number of potentially dispersible posts is about 86,000.

Government decision is still awaited on the Hardman recommendations which suggested the relocation of yet another 30,400 posts—more than 35 per cent of the potentially dispersible number. The Conservative Government recognized that up to June, 1973, dispersal had been largely confined to work which was fairly self-contained and which could be done anywhere.

The Hardman review had looked at the possibility of taking the dispersal process one stage further—investigating work of policy formulation and implementation and posts closely associated with the central machinery of government. In June, 1973, the Conservative Government was cautious about the recommendations. Clearly, work of this kind could only be done outside London with some loss of effectiveness in the services provided for ministers, Parliament and the public and Hardman considered what price the Government would have to pay in terms of loss of efficiency—for easing central London problems and creating new work opportunities elsewhere. It was the price which the Conservative Government wanted to measure carefully.

Labour's reaction was that the recommended dispersal—even at 35 per cent—was not enough but the new Government is now studying the problem in the light of Hardman's expressed views. It is the present Government's policy to set up new departments in a location outside London and there are already in fact 11,800 new posts outside the capital and another 9,000 posts waiting to be established.

For the layman, it is easy to assume that some departments of government cannot ever be relocated outside London without serious loss of effectiveness. The actual course is true—at least true of those which make up the image of the policy making, top flight Civil Service who often have nearly as much influence as—and sometimes more than—the ministers they serve. But the Hardman review showed that even within departments like, say, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office—there are huge groups of civil servants which can be divorced from the centre and the resulting damage to efficiency measured so that cost and benefit can be analysed and judged.

The formulae are contained in the report and provide a useful method of decision accounting for these private organizations which want to retain a central core in London with satellite departments in new locations in country towns.

Of all government departments, accounts and the tax section most susceptible to relocation. Customs and Excise (Southend), Ministry of Defence (Worcester, Bath and Reading), Department of Education and Science (Dorchester), Department of the Environment (Hastings)—these are typical of the accounts moves already made. And, of course, every London taxpayer knows that his sums are now worked out in Bootle, Manchester or some other place with which he has no real connexion.

As with any organizations, there is a feeling that to work on the fringe is to lose opportunity for promotion. There is no doubt that in the Civil Service, the best jobs occur in London along the corridors of power—and un-learned civil servant works there feels that there is a risk that he will be overlooked.

While London remains the seat of the Government, the

career-minded civil servant must come to London for advancement eventually. But dispersal has resulted in a far better career structure and greatly improved career prospects for those civil servants starting their careers in the provinces.

The present Government is concerned to provide a good regional spread of departments and is giving priority to long distance moves. Wales and Scotland have benefited particularly from the moves which have already been made and more are planned.

The Civil Service does not expect clerical staff to move when a relocation decision is taken. Clerical staff is mainly female and has no option but to stay where husbands work and children are at school. The administrative and executive classes have to move as it is a condition of service that they go where they are sent.

The Government clearly has a responsibility to set an example to private organizations and to move as many civil servants to new locations as is reasonable and compatible with efficiency. On the facts and figures we have seen, it is clear that this responsibility is already taken seriously, and the indications are that every effort will be made at least to meet the Hardman recommendations.

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Changing patterns

continued from page VII

all business trips take more than half an hour compared with only 22 per cent from Central London offices.

The former figure is influenced to some extent by the distance the firm has moved from London which in turn tends to be related to the size of the recipient office.

centres: firms moving farther from London tend to go to larger office centres where there are more opportunities to make new local links and, therefore, to reduce travel burdens.

The extent to which new links can be made obviously depends on the particular contact: while certain business services are fairly common, other contacts can be made only in London.

Nevertheless, for certain office-makers who are attempting to encourage office decentralization and managers who are making decentralization decisions should be aware that

considerable communication advantages can be gained from major office centres well away from London where groups of interrelated office activities can develop.

For firms considering decentralization this study suggests that it is essential first to obtain an accurate picture of existing contact patterns before deciding which departments to relocate. The obvious direct communication costs of decentralization may be minimized by moving to a well established office centre rather than to isolated sites, and by the introduction of certain telecommunication devices.

At the same time the hidden communication consequences of relocation should not be overlooked. The loss of old contacts might not be replaced by new ones.

Indeed, there may be benefits to be gained from getting away from the influence of London altogether.



R BREZHNEV'S UPHILL ROAD

Western democracies struggle in their sea of troubles. The Union and eastern Europe look like havens of peace. There, it seems, no pressure is imposed, no elections are held, and little or no inflation racks the social order. No loss of control has been visible since the Polish of 1970. Mr Brezhnev has power for ten years, Mr Zhivkov of Bulgaria for 18. Problems they admit are serious ones, but no real about the inexorable of socialism from one to another. picture is not a total fake. Elections are not to genuine elections are steady more stable than those are. A controlled press is a free one. Some of the us with which the west is more easily contained, not solved, by the Soviet. Wages, prices, and the of wealth can be stered with little reference to groups. Dissent can be pressed, institutions pre- and external pressures are, the socialist road at all smooth. Nor is it isolated from world inflation, fuel shortage, and other ms. For Mr Brezhnev it to be becoming steeper, ere are signs that he is with less confidence and than before. At home he ed by the disastrous grain t of 1972, and it is now that the current five-year lagging in many important such as energy, fuel, iron el. It is true that the direc- or 1973 were said to have ostly fulfilled but they had evised downwards since the al plan was passed. has foreign policy pro- all the goods that were for. Mr Brezhnev's open- the west was intended to

bring in a harvest of western trade and credits to give Soviet technology a lift and in particular to enable Soviet raw material resources to be exploited more rapidly. Linked with this was the need to stabilize the situation in Europe, partly by gaining formal acceptance of existing frontiers, and the Soviet sphere of influence. In pursuit of this policy Mr Brezhnev staked a lot on personal relations with Mr Nixon, Herr Brandt, and M Pompidou, and he even repaired relations with Britain's Conservative government.

Only Mr Nixon survives, and he is now so discredited as to be something of an embarrassment, as well as being too weak to fulfil promises such as granting most-favoured-nation treatment to Soviet imports. Trade has certainly increased but Mr Brezhnev overestimated the capacity of western governments and institutions to grant cheap credits. At the same time the security conference, while coming some way to meet the Soviet Union on the frontier questions, has embroiled her in lengthy and embarrassing discussions on freer movement of people and information.

The world fuel crisis and western inflation have added to these difficulties. The Soviet Union ought to benefit from higher oil prices but it lacks the technology to get its oil out of the ground and the pipes to transport it. Everything points to shortages developing over the next five years. This is already causing anxiety in east European countries which have been told they will have to rely less on Soviet oil in future. Yet they lack the hard-currency to buy elsewhere. At the same time western inflation threatens to play havoc with prices and planning in the Comecon area. Only for a limited time can the effects be warded off by subsidies and controls.

Add growing tension with China to all this, and restive nationalities at home, and one

can imagine that some awkward questions are being asked by those who were not so keen on Mr Brezhnev's policy in the first place. These included some military men who did not like arms control, some elements in the security forces who feared the effects of greater contact with the west, and some nationalists who did not want Soviet raw materials to be exploited by foreigners and then mortgaged to them for years to come in order to pay for the technology.

This opposition was neutralized in two ways—by bringing the heads of the armed forces and the security services into the Politburo, and by promising that the policy would be successful. If the results are now less dramatic than promised the opposition must be correspondingly more confident. There are already some small signs of this in the unwillingness of the Soviet Union at the security conference in Geneva, at the force reductions talks in Vienna, and in the Salt II discussions with Dr Kissinger; perhaps also in the pressures on Hungary to modify its reforms, and in the less uniform tone of Soviet press comment on foreign affairs.

Plans for a world conference of communist parties appear to have been dropped. Anniversary celebrations of the Soviet Academy of Sciences were suddenly cancelled. Jewish emigration has fallen off. Mr Brezhnev is no longer so universally praised for his achievements. These and other signs suggest a certain amount of retrenchment and hesitation.

Perhaps it is caused partly by uncertainty about the fate of Mr Nixon, but it would not be surprising if there were some revival of the old debate about how far the Soviet Union should open up to the west. The problem is that it cannot import western technology without also importing some of the methods and attitudes that go with it. This is its real dilemma, and Mr Brezhnev may have to fight harder to resolve it.

Salary levels and national wealth

From Mr R. A. Withers
Sir, It is difficult to understand how a politician of the integrity and intelligence of Mr Grimond can write such misleading nonsense as pervades his letter of May 20. He ignores, although he must well understand, two factors that radically influence the situation he tries to depict.

The first is the law of supply and demand which explains why a leading bank is willing to pay its chairman designate gross emoluments which are admittedly high by the standards in the United Kingdom but not by those of almost all other industrially sophisticated countries which are rapidly outpacing us in prosperity and will be helped to do so even further if they can secure the services of men of such calibre as the distinguished civil servant in question.

The second is the redistribution of earnings by taxation. The comparison that Mr Grimond attempts to draw between the highest and lowest paid is invalidated by the effect of a tax system which is probably the most socially just (in Mr Grimond's terms) among highly industrialized societies in so far as it confiscates a much larger proportion of high earnings than in most of the countries with which the United Kingdom competes. Thus the differential which Mr Grimond deplores between the best and worst paid should be reduced by two thirds before it becomes an honest comparison and might then reflect more fairly, and certainly more realistically, the differences in both ability and scarcity.

So much for the merely misleading parts of Mr Grimond's letter. Missing altogether, however, is any mention of the constantly reiterated fact that a further dilution of high earnings would add only insignificant amounts to the incomes of the underpaid.

Surely all those, and who more than Mr Grimond, who are genuinely concerned with the difficulties of a large undoubtedly underpaid section of the working population realize that there can be no improvement without an increase in national wealth; that is to say, a larger cake before there can be larger slices.

To achieve this must in common sense involve going back before we can move forward in terms of individual spending because successive governments of both parties have in their own narrow and unparliamentary interests encouraged us as a nation to live beyond our means, and until this is pulled back there can be no lasting solution.

The tragedy is that it is on the equivalent, on a national scale, of Mr Grimond's constituents that the major sacrifice always falls and nothing can alter this because they

are so numerous. But to achieve a solution at all involves national unity and a massive change of attitudes and this in turn calls for leadership of a quality which the contemporary strain of politicians consistently fails to provide. Yours faithfully,
RUFFET WITHERS,
RUE 24,
100 Lancaster Gate, W2,
May 21.

From Professor Roland Oliver
Sir, To carry Mr Grimond's radical views a little further, one might say that inflation will only be conquered when people at large are prepared to accept a visible reduction of income as the only truthful expression of a falling standard of living. When this stage is reached, the reductions in top salaries could well be on a dramatic enough scale to make a real impact on public opinion. For example, a 10 per cent reduction in after-tax income would enable the gross value of many top salaries to be slashed by half, merely by eliminating the top slice of which most go to the taxman. Indeed, with a little revision of tax levels, it should be possible to reduce all salaries to four figures, with only a modest degree of real sacrifice all round.

And that, surely, would create a new political climate. For one thing, it could no longer be possible for politicians to bandy around wholly misleading figures like £34,000 a year. Yours faithfully,
ROLAND OLIVER,
Rushmore Woodhouse,
Harmatage, Berkshire,
May 20.

From Mr Leonard G. Dove
Sir, Jo Grimond writes to you to criticize the high pay of top management in this country. I have spent a lifetime in industry in this country and I can assure you that I am a Liberal, believing in the free-enterprise system, mitigated by public ownership of public service industries and social justice.

It is an established fact that management in this country is paid far less than in other comparable and more successful countries. Jo Grimond is highly selective in his examples, and quotes figures before tax.

Management in this country today faces enormous problems, including that of raising per capita production, which is less than that of other developed countries. For success in this management should have better take-home pay. Yours faithfully,
LEONARD G. DOVE,
8 The Great Quarry,
Guildford, Surrey,
May 20.

Ulster protest on Sunningdale

From Sir Kennedy Treviskis
Sir, Political strikes are deplorable but, in our irritation with those who engineer them, we should remember that they offer a lesson which our parliamentarians would do well to learn: that it is certainly imprudent and usually impossible to implement a law or political decision if it is opposed by those whom it is mainly intended to affect.

Thus, however admirably and impartially drafted, the Industrial Relations Act has proved to be a most damaging mistake by reason of the bitter opposition to it of the majority of trades unionists. Similarly, however admirable the purpose of power sharing in Northern Ireland and of the Sunningdale Agreement, they too will certainly prove to be damaging mistakes because of the stern opposition to them of the majority of Northern Ireland's inhabitants.

For Conservatives to get indignant about trades unionist bloodmindedness in not seeing the merits of the Industrial Relations Act is just as much beside the point as Mr Merlyn Rees' denouncing Northern Irish intransigence in not accepting the desirability of power sharing and Sunningdale. In a democratic society such as ours it is the function of politicians to rule by persuasion not coercion. This is what they are failing to do.

Yours truly,
KENNEDY TREVISKIS,
The Bath Club,
43 Brook Street, W1,
May 20.

From Professor Ken Lindsay
Sir, No strike settlement which acknowledges any aspect of the Sunningdale Agreement will be accepted by the Ulster public. This is basic. In addition, the workers demanded an Ulster general election. The purpose is to destroy swiftly and democratically the "executive" of Mr Faulkner and Mr Pitt together with the other arrangements of the Constitution Act. The Westminster parliamentary democracy is the only form acceptable to the Ulster majority.

Under the circumstances, the Westminster Government may balk at granting a general election in order to avoid the humiliation of having its vaunted Constitution Act torn up by representatives fresh from the polls with a new mandate. Instead, it may prefer to re-impose direct rule until such time as an acceptable constitutional arrangement can be negotiated.

Should such be the Westminster Government's decision, the temporary direct rule must be accompanied by the additional representatives at Westminster to which the region is entitled. The UUUC Portrush policy manifesto of last month demanded ten additional seats. The reaction of a number of members of the British Labour Party has been: "Why should we give the Tories an additional ten seats?"

In practice, six or seven of the ten would be won by Loyalists and four or three by Republicans. Further, there is no guarantee that the former would always vote with the Tories. However, if they did vote, the three or four Republicans would always negate an equivalent number of Loyalists so that the latter would add either four or two to the Tory strength.

Surely the Labour Party has more confidence in its electoral prospects

than to be frightened by a possible four or two additional effective votes in the outcome of lobby divisions. Yours faithfully,
KEN LINDSAY,
Member, Northern Ireland Assembly,
Parliament Buildings,
Stormont, Belfast.

From Mr V. D. Clarke
Sir, As an Ulsterman recently returned from Belfast, I plead that the views expressed by Mr Dalyell (Letters, May 15) be reconsidered in the light of humanity and reason? Let him criticize the media if he will (can he really have sweeping contempt for people who mourn in the presence of cameras which they did not invite?) but do not let him confuse the issues even more. Such confusion and the resultant apathy have been stated by the IRA as a specific aim in their campaign.

Whatever victories have been achieved by the security forces, neither they nor anyone else in the situation have been any equal for the republican propagandists. Confusion is their weapon. Clarity backed by force is the only defence.

Other than the security forces there does not seem to be any group in Ulster with whom the fair minded mainland Briton can identify. Can I please repeat what has already been said softly in your correspondence columns? Between the IRA and its sympathizers and the loyalist groups and their sympathizers there are thousands caught in the middle. They have a weak voice and little coordination since they don't see themselves as a group. They vested their power in the law which now collapses around them.

Some are stoic and many afraid, so their profile remains low, not least because their enemy may be their neighbour.

The may not be noble but they are human and they could be like the friends and family of many of your readers. Some of them have died and many more could die unnecessarily, unless people in this country can be persuaded to seek the truth in the situation. Yours faithfully,
V. D. CLARKE,
73 The Heights,
Foxgrove Road,
Beckenham, Kent.

From Miss Enid Lakeman
Sir, Robert Fisk's article today (May 20) says that "by providing Loyalists with 11 of the 12 Westminster seats", the February 1974 Westminster election showed how many Protestants dislike power-sharing and the Sunningdale agreement.

Those 11 out of 12 seats show nothing of the sort. A much nearer indication of the electorate's opinion as to the vote cast in the Westminster election. Of these, the Loyalists got 51 per cent (49 per cent in the seven constituencies where a pro-Assembly Unionist also stood), which is certainly an advance on their support last June but is very far from justifying the present claims; let alone strike action.

Our electoral system, which gives such a false impression of the voters' opinions, is very dangerous. The single transferable vote, under which the Assembly elections were held, gave a true reflection of opinion at that time, and is much safer. Yours faithfully,
ENID LAKEMAN, Director,
Electoral Reform Society,
6 Chancel Street,
Southwark, SE1.

THE BEST USE OF NORTH SEA OIL

estimates of this country's gas reserves, announced yesterday by Mr Varley, that the North Sea is an greater potential source of y than had been supposed. of the nature of these ites that they are continuing-upgraded. Some experts the industry would be ed to go even further than all projection of a sse rate of production of n tons a year in the 1980s, if somewhat conservative, gures show two things, the North Sea can provide k of the United Kingdom's irements in the last two of this century. Secondly, ough large, they are still by the context of the total proven oil reserves. analysis raises two issues re policy on which debate increasingly concentrate. is the rate at which the ives in the British North ould be depleted. The is whether or not it is in ational interest that any ant quantity of it should

be exported in the form of crude oil.

There may here be a conflict between the interests of the oil companies involved in the development of the North Sea and those of the nation as a whole. The discussion centres on what should be the proper policy towards the conservation, as opposed to the exploitation, of our substantial but finite reserves. Between now and the end of the decade there is no real problem of decision, for the constraint remains the rate at which it is physically possible to get the oil ashore. The interests both of the companies and of the national economy is that there should be no further delay.

The conservationists would argue two things. The first is that it would be a mistake thereafter to use prodigally our own limited supply of oil (and gas). For reasons of both security of supply and balance of payments it is important for the long term prospects of the British economy that there should be the most economical use of our own oil reserves. If these arguments are accepted, the

way to ensure an economic use of fuel would be the proper use of the pricing mechanism. The price of our North Sea oil should then be set so as to ensure that demand for it was not wastefully increased by virtue of its being priced too low.

Whether our North Sea oil should be used in any quantity for exporting is a more complex question of long-term industrial policy. The oil companies would argue that exports of our high-quality crude oil to third countries could make a valuable contribution to the balance of payments over the next quarter century. The counter argument is the one that less developed oil producing countries are not using. The oil they say should either be left in the ground or used as the basis for an expanding domestic petrochemical industry. The products of this industrial activity could then be exported, with a much higher content of value added and having contributed more to the general level of domestic industrial activity. This is again an area of potential conflict between short-term and long-term national interests.

MPs' outside interests

From Lord Kennet
Sir, Your report (May 18) that "there will be great resentment" in the House of Lords "if Labour MPs in the House of Commons on Wednesday debating their own motions on the declaration of interests seek to widen the scope to include peers?"

No doubt there will, but may I make it clear that it will not be means felt by all members of the House of Lords? To some of us it has long since been an anomaly, even a disgrace, that every member of every elected body in the country has to declare his interests before public inspection.

If it is truly as you report, the opinion of "the vast majority of the Lords" that since peers are not elected and owe no obligation to an electorate, it is less necessary for them to register their interests than for members of the House of Commons. Then I can only marvel at their detachment from the realities of democracy. Members of the House of Lords have a voice in legislation; if that voice is obtained by heredity

or appointment rather than election, it is not more, rather than less, necessary that interests should be registered?

The statement "apart from life peers who are appointed after long service on the Labour and Liberal back benches in the Commons it is generally assumed that the Tories are fairly well off, if not rich" is true. But would it not have been better worth while to inquire if the assumption itself is true?

If anybody in this country wants a better Parliament, he must first inquire into the facts. They will find that a member of the House of Commons receives eight times the statutory emoluments of a member of the House of Lords; a member of the German Bundestag 16 times; a member of the American House of Representatives 150 times, and a member of the American Senate 230 times.

To put power in the hands of paupers is the prime recipe for corruption. Yours faithfully,
KENNET,
House of Lords,
May 20.

Computers and privacy

From Mr E. L. Willey
Sir, Mr Paul Sieghart's letter (May 20, "Computers and Privacy") urging Government action to safeguard confidential information stored in computer data banks, also rightly says that the computing industry is wary of the loss of sensitive information being misused. It is for this reason that the British Computer Society formed a Privacy and Public Welfare Committee in 1969 to examine the problem. In a submission to the Young Committee two years later, the society advocated laws to protect the privacy of individuals and commercial and industrial interests against unauthorized and unwarranted intrusions. Specifically, the society's recommendations included that personal information should be defined as a right belonging to that person and that interference by public and private bodies should be restricted by law; that individuals should have the right to challenge data about themselves, and that infringements of the law should be criminal offences.

The society also advocated a licensing system for owners of banks of sensitive information and suggested setting up a Government body to control the regulations. Last year a survey by the society showed that the majority of companies who participated agreed that Government should introduce con-

trols on data banks; that data banks who hold identifiable personal information should be required to register both their commercial objectives and the extent of that information; and that only one out of 44 participating companies had introduced safeguards which merited recommendation by the society. The society has been consulted by the authors of the American report to which Mr Sieghart refers, and also by Professor Westin, who has recently completed a survey project on computer data banks.

Britain is in danger of lagging behind the rest of the world in enacting legislation to protect the privacy of its citizens, both corporate and private. Hesse in West Germany appointed a Data Protection Commissioner in 1970. A privacy Bill was put before the Canadian Parliament last year and, in May, the Swedish Data Act celebrates its first anniversary on the statute books.

The Government should take the lead by the early publication of its promised White Paper and give priority to establishing laws to protect the privacy of information stored on computers, laws which are in the best interests of the public and computing profession. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
E. L. WILLEY, Deputy President,
The British Computer Society,
29 Portland Place, W1,
May 20.

Gassing of badgers

From Mr R. W. Howard
Sir, It is widely recognized that tuberculosis in wild badgers is a source of infection in cattle in the Cotswolds and in west Cornwall. Few would dispute the desirability or even the necessity of destroying badgers in known infected areas. The killing of badgers by unlicensed persons is an offence. The responsibility for the destruction of badgers as a means of disease control therefore falls upon the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Ministry is morally required to ensure that such destruction is carried out by the most humane methods practicable. The Ministry is however only able to use methods which are currently legal in this country. These include snaring and shooting, but exclude gassing (Protection of Animals Act, 1911).

Unquestionably snaring is cruel and the Scott Henderson Committee on Cruelty to Wild Animals (Cmd 8266) recommended that "as gassing is undoubtedly the most effective and humane method of killing badgers steps should be taken to make this practice legal" (para 327).

Such action has not been taken and now that the need has arisen to kill badgers on account of tuberculosis the method being used and demonstrated to farmers by the Ministry is that of snaring and shooting. It is therefore urgent that the recommendation of the Scott Henderson committee be acted upon in order to avoid continued quite unnecessary cruelty. Yours faithfully,
R. W. HOWARD,
Warner's Lodge,
Chewton, Keynsham,
Bristol,
May 19.

Stately homes and tax

From Lord Hertford
Sir, The Duke of Bedford (May 19) has pleaded most eloquently for the retention of great art collections in the country houses to which they belong, and in which they can be best enjoyed by tourists. The millions of people who come from all over the world to visit the historic houses of England would surely agree with him.

May I point out that these houses themselves (quite apart from their contents) are already threatened by the retention of great art collections in the country houses to which they belong, and in which they can be best enjoyed by tourists. The millions of people who come from all over the world to visit the historic houses of England would surely agree with him.

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Biography of Churchill

From Mr Martin Gilbert
Sir, I have just begun work on the fifth volume of Sir Winston Churchill's official biography, which covers the period from his defeat at Dundee in November 1922 to his entry into Neville Chamberlain's War Cabinet in September 1939. I should be most grateful to any of your readers who could send me personal recollections or anecdotes of this period, or who might have any letters or other documentary material bearing on it which I could see. Naturally, I should return anything which was sent as quickly as possible. Yours sincerely,
MARTIN GILBERT,
The Map House,
Harcourt Hill, Oxford,
May 16.

Trade Union Bill

From Mr B. A. Hepple
Sir, There are several objections to Mr Harry Samuel's suggestion (May 16) that the immunity which the Trade Union and Labour Relations Bill grants in respect of inducement of breaches of contract should be limited to established unions (and, presumably, those acting on their behalf). Some of those objections were voiced by the five members of the Donovan Commission who dissented from the majority's proposal on this point (Cmd 3623, para 804). In particular they thought that exposing unofficial strikers to liability for inducing breaches of contract would do nothing to help the reform of the collective bargaining system.

Quiet traffic

From Dom Charles Fitzgerald-Lombard
Sir, The prospect of the widespread introduction of the "silent rider" battery powered bus (The Times, May 15) prompts me to suggest that the DOE should consider imposing a minimum, as well as a maximum, noise level for road vehicles. Bicycles are petrol-driven, and, of course, the blind could be at great risk from fast moving and massive silent vehicles. Yours faithfully,
C. FITZGERALD-LOMBARD,
Downside Abbey,
Stratton on the Fosse,
Bath.

The events of the summer of 1972 show that they were right. The effect of the proposal could also be to expose to civil liability those who are attempting to organize workers into some form of trade union. Making breach of contract the criterion of liability greatly increases the technicality of strike law. A small shift in the facts may decide the issue whether or not there is a breach of contract. It is time for Parliament to heed Viscount Radcliffe's plea in 1954 that a strike should be dealt with according to its substance "without the comparatively accidental issue whether breach of contract is looked for and involved: and by its substance it should be either licensed, controlled or forbidden" (Stratford v Lindley [1953] AC 369 at p 330).

Yours faithfully,
B. A. HEPPLE,
Clare College,
Cambridge,
May 17.

THING TO DECLARE?

House of Commons will be debating the proposal for a register of members' interests. A register has become a register not because there is reason to suppose that corruption is rife in Parliament. It is much more cause for concern about local government councils have in effect waded of financial patronage disposal. But a recent episode concerning a of Parliament have some public unease and ential to restore confidence for that reason, there is a register, but it is necessary to appreciate

women who are currently engaged in professional and business activities outside, and the demand for disclosure of interests should not be pressed so far as to harass those who are so occupied perfectly legitimately—especially as this would not anyway be a means of rooting out all corruption. A register of interests must not be operated as a new form of inquisition for those who have the temerity to allow themselves to be elected to the House of Commons.

What a register could do is to present the individual MP with a choice. Whenever he accepted a business offer he would know that he would have either to acknowledge it openly or act improperly. He would know that to conceal it would in itself be to cross the narrow, and now often scarcely definable, boundary between the legitimate and the illegitimate. It would put an end to those confidential relationships where everyone still believes that they are acting properly. It would also enable the public to see whether an MP who took a particular interest in a certain subject had a legitimate business interest in it. In both ways a register would help to increase public confidence.

To serve these purposes the

register would have to be compulsory. It would be tempting to suggest that a voluntary register would avoid unnecessary intrusions of privacy and the need to define too precisely what interests were to be included. But that would be precisely the wrong way round. A voluntary register would either be virtually useless or would give rise to an endless flow of innuendoes against those who did not declare the direct choice between declaring an interest and acting improperly, and it would not be well fitted to reassure the public. Neither would a system which left it vague as to just which interests needed to be registered.

The list should be precise but limited. A select committee should determine the details, but the areas to be covered should be employment, consultancies (with a list of clients for those engaged in public relations firms) and other business relationships. Details of salaries should not be required. The dividing line should be between meeting a public need and satisfying public curiosity. If that line can be drawn with some accuracy it should be possible to make this distasteful but necessary innovation without indulging in a financial witch-hunt.

to be no bar to a prosecution under the Obscene Publications Act, 1959. The enactments, currently in force, coupled with such common law offences as conspiracy to corrupt public morals and conspiracy to outrage public decency, provide very considerable protection to those who are distressed by the availability of material which they find offensive, and Mr Butt's shabby attempt to label the Labour Government as the pornographers' friend in no way contributes to the informed debate which this subject undoubtedly deserves. Yours faithfully,
L. M. H. LANKESTER,
325A Boxley Road,
Maidstone, Kent.

pornography

L. M. H. Lankester
ald Butt's implication in es (May 16) that by not cing the Cinematograph icient Displays Bill the Government generally, and a Secretary in particular, disregard for the human nd mental health of the is so obvious a distort- e truth that it needs pass the compliment of a critical rejoinder. o concrete examples he ver, of the consequences policy in this field require Mr Butt complains of the

embarrassment caused to a school-boy by the unsolicited, sexually orientated advertisements which he received; section 4(1) of the Unsolicited Goods and Services Act, 1971, already outlaws the sending of any unsolicited publication which describes or illustrates human sexual techniques, or the sending of advertising material for any such publication—even where the advertising material is, in itself, innocuous. Secondly, Mr Butt refers to an obscene paper which he found in a newsagents' shop; but immediately he would have had no effect on the situation. Moreover, if the Director of Public Prosecutions considers the book to be obscene there would seem

AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS LIMITED

7th Successive Year of Growth

| | 1973 | 1972 |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Turnover | 69,152 | 61,256 |
| Profit before Tax | 6,097 | 5,272 |
| Profit after Tax | 3,499 | 3,032 |
| *Earnings per Ordinary Share | 8.861p | 7.475p |
| *Ordinary Dividend | 2.067p | 1.969p |

(Gross equivalent per share)

*After adjustment for splitting £1 shares into 25p shares

Trading in first quarter of 1974, despite power rationing and an unprecedented level of cost inflation not reflected in selling price adjustments until the third month, resulted in a small profit. As expected, there has been a marked slackening in the level of domestic registrations of new vehicles, but demand, particularly from overseas and for both original equipment and replacement parts, remains buoyant. The short and medium term view of the board is one of cautious optimism.

LEAMINGTON SPA: WARWICKSHIRE

Manufacturers of: LOCKHEED BRAKES, BORG & BECK CLUTCHES, A.P. AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS, PURULATORS, LOCKHEED STEERING & SUSPENSION EQUIPMENT.

More flexible US view on gold expected

From Frank Vogl Washington, May 21. Gold is likely to be the main subject at the ministerial meeting of the Committee of 20 on monetary reform here next month with the United States expected to show greater flexibility on the issue than has so far been the case.

The International Monetary Fund is working on new arrangements on gold sales and purchases among central banks. United States Treasury sources say that detailed talks have been held about gold with European finance ministers. The main fear of the Americans lies with the possibility of a general boost in international liquidity

being produced by central banks who will use the receipts to pay for their increasing oil import bills. The IMF, however, according to sources, is trying to develop a system whereby central banks could sell gold at free market rates in a non-inflationary manner.

Mr William Dale, the deputy managing director of the IMF, said recently that decisions may be taken before long to change the articles of agreement of the IMF to enable countries to pay 25 per cent of their quotas at the IMF in special drawing rights, rather than in gold. The IMF plan could well involve some system whereby

the IMF seeks directly to exchange special drawing rights for gold at central banks on terms that equal free market prices. A key element here is the desire of countries to hold special drawing rights, but the IMF sources suggested that most of the oil-producing countries have recently indicated a willingness to accept SDRs in substantial volume, if the SDRs carry a reasonable rate of interest and are formulated to provide a sound guarantee.

The executive board of the IMF will discuss the new formulation of SDRs in the next few weeks and hopes to have an acceptable formula ready for the June 12 meeting of the Committee of 20 ministers. The oil-producing countries are interested in having their IMF quotas increased at the fund, reflecting their new financial strength, and this is likely to be a big point in the review of quotas now taking place.

The IMF has not yet done sufficient work on the gold problem to enable it to present a detailed set of proposals to the Committee of 20 ministers, but as countries get into payment problems, because of the oil crisis, and as EEC countries seem keen to be able to buy and sell gold freely, the IMF recognizes that the gold issue is urgent.

Japan eases credit and price curbs

Tokyo, May 21.—The Japanese government today removed some price controls, authorized a drastic increase in electricity rates and ended credit to avert a possible increase of bankruptcies among small businesses.

The price moves had been under consideration for some time while the credit decision represented a quick reaction yesterday's request by Nihon Keizai Shimbun Kogyo KK, an air conditioner maker, to go into receivership.

The government freed toilet paper and tissue paper from mandatory price controls and lifted administrative price curbs from car tyres, paint, nylon fibre, polyester fibre, acrylic staple, polyester staple, corrugated cardboard and household electric light bulbs.

It also approved an average 56.32 per cent increase in electricity rates, with effect from June 1. Japan's nine regional power companies, all of which are operating at a loss, had sought a 62.9 per cent average increase.

The government also announced a 151,000 yen (about £225m) increase in loans available for small businesses in the April-June quarter. This is meant to create business confidence and avert a possible chain reaction of bankruptcies.

The government's liberalization move left 45 categories of industrial goods and over 100 service industries still subject to formal or informal price controls.

Mr Joe Gossan (DAKS Simpson) has been elected chairman of the Clothing Manufacturers' Federation, with Mr John Williams (Ben Williams & Co) as senior vice-chairman, Mr Richard Cantwell (S. Cantwell & Sons) as junior vice-chairman and Mr William Gorton (D. Gorton & Sons) as honorary treasurer.

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Technological progress is made at the expense of jobs, union chief says

By Edward Townsend. A strong attack on the effects of automation and technological advance on employment and standards of living was launched yesterday by Mr Ken Gill, general secretary of the technical and supervisory section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

"There is no evidence at present that scientific and technological progress does much other than increase unemployment and company profits," he said. Mr Gill, speaking at a conference in London on automated materials handling, said that unions did not have the luxury of indulging in "esoteric speculations" about the "unlimited possibilities of automation and computerization."

They welcomed technological and scientific advance because it offered the possibility that human beings could develop their potential and abilities.

There had been a decline in employment of 1,274,000 jobs in the five years up to 1971, and trade unionists were not prepared to ignore the fact, "Trade unionists make up unemployment statistics. They are people who have their standards of living slashed," he said. Mr Gill cited the docks and steel industries as examples of industries where technological progress was reducing and restricting jobs.

"Our experience is that players will only introduce techniques when they are convinced that the result is lower costs and increased profits. Too often these end result at the expense of the players' security and too are the results of a 'creeping standards'."

Mr Gill told the conference organized by the *Financial Times* and *Mechanical Engineering*, that a result of the greater capacity of high capital equipment the introduction of shift systems in automation at presentization, which the were assured, would eliminate routine tasks and result in improved quality of life.

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P & O will peg cruise fares

P & O will hold cruise fares at their present level for the remainder of this year's season, the group's passenger division announced yesterday.

Surcharges of 10 per cent up to July and a further 5 per cent thereafter already announced as a result of the bunker situation will stay. Cruise operators generally have given warning of big increases in fares next year.

But because of "more stable conditions in the international bunker situation" P & O are now sufficiently confident to peg fares for the remainder of 1974, the division said.

Advertising & marketing

Promotions battle to follow WHS cuts

An advertising and promotions battle between at least two High Street retail groups is expected to follow the W. H. Smith decision to drop groupophone record and music cassette prices by up to 20 per cent. The price cuts were introduced as a result of government pressure on retail profit margins.

Boots, which is one of WHS's main rivals in the recorded music field, introduced a 10 per cent across-the-board discount on all records and cassettes at the weekend, including those already subject to promotional reductions. Woolworth is expected to adopt similar measures shortly.

Both WHS and Boots are using extensive advertising to publicize their price reductions. WHS through its advertising agents, Masius Wynne-Williams and D'Arcy MacManus, started a national television campaign on Friday which will continue at different strengths until Christmas. Expenditure is thought to be up to £100,000 per month.

Boots, through its advertising agents, Everetts, starts a press and television campaign later this week. The price reductions on records are one of a series of cuts which certain retailers are expected to introduce to meet the Government's counter-inflation plans. Next on the WHS list are thought to be toys and stationery.

RHM moves flours

RHM Foods has moved the advertising account for its McDougalls and Be-Ro flours from Masius Wynne-Williams & D'Arcy MacManus to J. Walter Thompson. Advertising expenditure for the two brands totals about £500,000 this year.

J. Walter Thompson already handles McDougalls' Pastry Mixes, which were launched nationally in 1972 and McDougalls' Sponge Mix, launched in London in January.

While conforming to the directive to reduce profits, WHS is naturally keen to use its lower prices to increase volume sales. Recorded music, in which the company claims to lead the retail field, was selected as offering maximum potential growth.

The advertising industry is planning to make July 1 the final changeover date for metric measures in press advertising. Some national newspapers, including *The Times*, are already using metric sizes.

About 30 regional newspapers have also made the change. Others, however, are awaiting permission from the Price Commission to raise advertisement rates when the new sizes come into use.

ENAB sets record. The Evening Newspaper Advertising Bureau reported a record turnover of £422,784 for its central billing service at its annual meeting in London yesterday. Formed in 1962, ENAB represents the advertising interests of most of Britain's 79 regional evening newspapers.

Patricia Tisdall. Mr F. E. Zollinger, a deputy chairman of the Imperial Chemicals Association (ICG) will become chairman from October 19, when Mr E. F. Daddon retires from the board. Mr D. E. Trafford, a deputy chairman of ICG, will become chairman of the Calor Gas Holding Co on the same date, following the retirement from the board of Mr Peter Fyfe-Bowyer, who will become president of the company and act as a consultant.

Mr Jim Cassidy, a member of the corporation and chairman of the team leading the venture, said yesterday he thought it would "bridge the gap between brainwave and commercial success."

The project will be called Creation of New Enterprises and applicants will be examined by a team of seven including Mr J. P. Coleman, chairman of Gresham Lion Group, and Mr B. G. Henderson, managing director of Digiprint.

Mr Cassidy said CONE had been allocated a building with 11 sections. Those accepted would be given advice about registering a company, attracting investment and gaining credit, but not money.

He added that the selection panel wanted applicants whose ideas had already undergone some development. Most important of the project, must stand a really good chance of success.

Mr M. B. Gifford has been made managing director of ICL (Australia) Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of ICL's international division in succession to Mr C. B. Oldham, who is giving up the post because of ill health. Mr Oldham will continue to serve ICL Australia as deputy chairman. Mr Gifford is succeeded as director of ICL's data entry products division by Mr M. E. Wagge. The division markets the Key-Edit range in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Germany, France and eastern Europe.

Mr R. B. Coulson has become managing director of GEC Electric Tubes and the English Electric Valve Co. Mr K. N. Hall has been made financial director of Butterfield Harvey.

Mr John Howard has become product development manager of Trident Life Assurance. He is succeeded by Mr Peter Fyfe-Bowyer, who will become president of the company and act as a consultant.

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Business appointments

Mr F E Zollinger to be next chairman of IC Gas

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GROWTH IN THE 70's

| | Turnover | Profit before tax | Profit after tax | Earnings per share* |
|------|----------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | Pence |
| 1970 | 45,830 | 1,388 | 918 | 2.91 |
| 1971 | 52,455 | 1,800 | 1,052 | 3.23 |
| 1972 | 61,433 | 3,674 | 2,121 | 7.44 |
| 1973 | 101,414 | 8,090 | 3,761 | 13.35 |

*Adjusted for capitalisation issue of 1 for 1 in June 1973.

Extracts from the Annual Report and the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Richard Oley.

- Steps taken in the last year will benefit future trading years.
- There is a balance between merchandising and manufacturing, between timber and non-timber interests, and between home and overseas.
- Earnings for the January to April 1974 period as shown by the management accounts are satisfactory. We have, in fact, made a good start.

WILLIAM MALLINSON and DENNY MOTT Ltd

Copies of the full Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, 130 Hackney Road, London E2 7QR.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the regulations of the Council of the Stock Exchange. It is not an invitation to any person to subscribe for or purchase any securities.

THE MERSEY DOCKS AND HARBOUR COMPANY

(Incorporated as a public trust by Act of Parliament in 1857 and re-constituted as a statutory company by Act of Parliament in 1971.)

20,017,099 Ordinary Shares of 10p each
£20,017,099.00 Redeemable Subordinated Unsecured Loan Stock

| | |
|---------------|--|
| £2,229,940.57 | 8 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock January, 1975 |
| £512,758.12 | 3 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock March, 1975 |
| £451,238.03 | 5 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock September, 1975 |
| £732,482.21 | 7 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock September, 1975 |
| £558,588.63 | 8 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock January, 1976 |
| £791,801.69 | 8 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock January, 1976 |
| £768,580.82 | 9 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock March, 1976 |
| £1,031,245.44 | 7 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock July, 1976 |
| £860,685.86 | 6 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock September, 1976 |
| £537,560.07 | 7 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock January, 1977 |
| £978,935.51 | 8 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock July, 1977 |
| £816,144.25 | 8 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock September, 1977 |
| £976,187.48 | 8 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock January, 1978 |
| £4,468,024.67 | 8 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock 1980/82 |
| £4,970,638.32 | 3 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock 1974/84 |
| £1,798,545.37 | 3 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock 1979/89 |
| £887,836.41 | 3 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock 1979/89 |
| £1,751,481.89 | 6 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock 1984/87 |
| £5,427,828.34 | 6 1/2 per cent. Redeemable Debenture Stock 1986/89 |
| £728,097.49 | 3 1/2 per cent. Irredeemable Debenture Stock |

Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the above securities of The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company to be admitted to the Official List.

For as long as the Loan Stock remains outstanding, any transfer or renunciation of Ordinary Shares or Loan Stock must be of both together. Accordingly, it is proposed that they should be listed as one security.

Particulars relating to The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company are available in *Extel* and *Moodies Statistical Services* and copies of the statistical cards may be obtained during usual business hours (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 12th June, 1974 from—

Baring Brothers & Co., Limited,
88 Leadenhall Street,
London EC3A 3DT

The Registrar,
Port of Liverpool Building,
Liverpool L3 1BZ

Pember & Boyle,
St. Albans House, Wood St.,
London EC2P 2HB
and The Stock Exchange

DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES LIMITED

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND NO. 139

Notice is hereby given that dividend No. 139 of one rand (R1.00) per share in respect of the six months period ending 30th June 1974, is hereby declared payable to the holders of preference shares registered in the books of the company at the close of business on 29th June 1974, and to persons presenting coupon No. 139 detached from preferred share warrants to bearer. A notice regarding payment of dividend to the company on or about 21st June 1974, will be published in the press by the London Secretary of the company on or about 21st June 1974.

The preference shares transfer register of the company is open for inspection from 29th June 1974 to 12th July 1974, both days inclusive, at the offices of the company at Johannesburg and the offices of the company at London and Johannesburg. Registered shareholders may also inspect the register at the offices of the company at Johannesburg and London.

By order of the Board
For and on behalf of
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED
London Secretaries
E. Barrows

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THE NORTHERN AMERICAN TRUST COMPANY LIMITED

Interim Statement (Unaudited)

| For the six months ended | May 1 1974 | May 1 1973 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Gross Revenue | 878,593 | 791,100 |
| Deduct: | | |
| Interest | 350,843 | 236,403 |
| Expenses | 23,304 | 25,422 |
| Taxation | 24,538 | 40,956 |
| | £479,908 | £488,319 |

The figures reflect the issue of the Convertible Loan Stock in December, 1972, and the increase in foreign currency borrowings. The Gross Revenue includes dividends postponed for tax reasons from preceding financial year.

An interim dividend of 0.7p on the Ordinary Shares (as last year) has been declared payable on 1st July 1974, together with the half year's Preference dividend paid on 1st May 1974, a total of £239,170.

Valuation of Investments—Net Asset Value including full dollar premium

| | May 1 1974 | November 1 1973 | May 1 1973 |
|--------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| £35,702,339 | | | |
| £244,000,569 | | | |
| £241,876,612 | | | |

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"profits for 1974 are likely to be well above 1973"

Sir Val Duncan

Chairman and Chief Executive, at the Annual General Meeting, 20 May 1974

1973

1973 was the centenary year for RTZ, for the Rio Tinto Company was formed 100 years ago to develop the great Spanish mines in the Province of Huelva, and this week the story of those mines is being published by Collins under the title 'Not On Queen Victoria's Birthday'. This year was marked by record profits, the operating profit for the Group being £240 million compared with £102 million in 1972, and the net profit attributable to shareholders was £69.6 million compared with £29.5 million in 1972. Every major operation, with the exception of Anglesey Aluminium and Hamersley, increased its profits in real terms. At Anglesey Aluminium there was a substantial loss of some £8 million, of which £3.9 million was borne by RTZ. However, we can now look forward - as a result of dedicated local management - to a situation where, within a year, we shall hope have reached break-even point. At Hamersley the iron ore price has not yet reflected the increase in steel prices and this, coupled with the relationship of the Australian dollar to the U.S. dollar, in which the contracts are written, has depressed the earnings. Once again Bougainville accounted for the largest increase in profits, due not only to the high price of copper but also to that of gold.

OUTLOOK FOR 1974

It has always been the case that predictions about profits for RTZ are difficult because of the uncertainties on the level of commodity prices. These are a major factor affecting our results and their impact in 1974 is likely to be even more significant than before. Copper prices are currently around £1,200 per tonne, and the average for the first 4 months of the year was £1,095 per tonne. I have previously commented that the present price level for copper is, in my opinion, too high. However, we may see some reduction during this year because I believe there is a speculative position in copper, due to a present lack of confidence in the value of currencies. The Group's copper operations will continue to be the main source of our net attributable earnings and with copper prices almost certainly above last year's £727 per tonne, profits for 1974 are likely to be well above 1973. An increasing tendency towards intervention by governments throughout the world compounds the uncertainties that face international corporations.

Brinco We in RTZ have already in 1974 been experiencing some of these uncertainties. The Government of Newfoundland wished to acquire the RTZ interest in Brinco Ltd. as a prelude to the complete take-over of that company. RTZ was unwilling to negotiate in isolation from the 22,000 other shareholders in Canada. Discussions therefore centred in Montreal and St. John's, Newfoundland, and Brinco persuaded the Government that though the Company should not be sold to Newfoundland they were of course willing to sell the physical assets of Churchill Falls and the other water rights owned by Brinco. Agreement was reached for the purchase by the Government of these assets for \$160 million. Brinco has undertaken to use its best endeavours to continue its contribution to the completion of Churchill Falls, which is about 96 per cent complete, and to assist in the training of a team to operate this facility on a permanent basis. Furthermore, Brinco has agreed to offer its engineering services on a fee basis to the Government of Newfoundland for the development of Gull Island and other hydro-electric sites in the Province. Shareholders of Brinco who wish will be able to sell their shares to the Corporation, but the principal shareholders, including RTZ, have indicated their intention to retain their shareholdings and this will result in a substantial capital sum becoming available for investment in other operations by Brinco.

Lornex If the tax proposals introduced several weeks ago in Ottawa, together with the proposals of the Government of British Columbia, were both to be enacted, Lornex would have virtually all its profits removed by taxation. Indeed, Lornex would be required to pay substantial federal taxes on income that it does not receive. I hope it is a fair assumption that the Federal Government's proposals of non-deductibility of certain major provincial imposts is rather more in the nature of a riposte to the draconian proposals made by the Government of British Columbia in order to highlight the dilemma of a Federal Government seeking to raise taxes or expenses on the Federal level whilst witnessing a constant erosion of their money-raising ability caused by the taxation levels of certain provinces. Meanwhile, Lornex and other undertakings in British Columbia would be victims of this situation. If this process were to continue, it would undoubtedly have most serious consequences for Canada: for no one in the private enterprise sector would be capable of raising either loan or equity capital. I very much hope that this problem will be satisfactorily resolved during the course of this year.

Bougainville In Bougainville there is the possibility of some change as the newly developed country of Papua New Guinea faces the problems of adult rationhood. The Chief Minister has indicated that his Government wishes to discuss the terms of the Agreement with Bougainville Copper, negotiated before self-government. We have always made it clear that we are happy to have discussions, and I feel confident that they will reflect the understanding by the Government and the Company of each other's position and that a satisfactory solution will be found.

Social Responsibility Although I have been commenting on factors affecting the

future outlook for your Corporation, these have been mainly financial. We are giving increasing time and thought to those areas of social responsibility without which industry cannot be accepted as playing a full and vital role in society on a constructive basis; and in particular we have been considering ways and means in which we can regularly give account to shareholders on these matters. As an example, we have been studying the work done throughout the Group on environmental questions. In a Corporation like this, where the number and size of projects under construction vary from year to year, just to give an annual figure of expenditure would often be misleading. It is, however, possible - by taking 4 or 5 years together - to give a more complete picture. From 1970 to 1973 inclusive the Group spent some £40 million on environmental controls, an average of £10 million a year; and the projected expenditure in 1974 is £20 million. This figure includes grants to universities and other learned institutions undertaking research on subjects of importance to Group companies.

We in RTZ have the privilege and duty not only of considering these areas of social responsibility in terms of the U.K., but also of the widening opportunities we can help to create for the people of the many different races who work with us around the world. In this connection great progress has been made in Southern Africa of a multi-racial nature in advancing the well-being of, and the understanding among, all races. We cannot agree with those well-meaning people who criticise our presence there, particularly in South West Africa. We believe we are making a major contribution towards developing the wealth of those countries and establishing new horizons for the people who live there. We believe that we are helping to develop skills and are bringing a wider education to our different teams. Indeed, there may well be even greater scope for demonstrating our acceptance of a social responsibility in these areas than in some of the other areas of RTZ's endeavour. To those who are critical of our working in certain countries, I would make a plea that they should withhold judgment until they can see more clearly the effect and the results of what we are doing.

OUTLOOK FOR BRITAIN

Today we see the prospect of a most serious situation facing free enterprise. Governments do not seem to understand that if they want a sense of national unity, for which many of us strive, then to penalise shareholders (who have in many cases invested their savings) who today, by legislation, can only receive in real terms a declining return in their income, when wages and prices have been rising, becomes a form of financial discrimination which divides the nation rather than unifies it. In fact shareholders are not exclusively a small group of rich people, but are often the representatives of great groups of people like trade unions and pension

funds of both private and nationalised corporations, together with a large number of individuals, many of whom are in modest circumstances. In RTZ, for instance, 60 per cent of our shareholders have less than 500 shares. Traditionally RTZ has paid out a reasonable proportion of its profits by way of dividends to shareholders. In the last few years retained profits have constituted that equity portion of a series of vast new developments for which we have borrowed heavily to provide all the capital necessary. In fact, in the last 5 years the RTZ Group has invested around £800 million around the world, and incidentally this has been achieved without having to remit from the U.K. any funds to overseas projects.

It is a natural and legitimate expectation on the part of shareholders that when some of these major plans have been brought to fruition - as indeed they have - and with a consequent increase in profits, that they should receive a reasonable share of these fruits. RTZ has many thousands of overseas shareholders and it does not seem reasonable to me that they, or for that matter, the U.K. shareholders should be prevented from receiving reasonable dividends from earnings derived overwhelmingly from overseas sources. I am sorry to tell you that the last Chancellor of the Exchequer was quite unmoved by the argument that we were in an exceptional situation and this no doubt is one of the reasons why RTZ share values on the market are at present so low. I find it highly regrettable that we do not live in a society which would allow fair rewards to investors as a parallel to wage increases which, in 1973, averaged 13.9 per cent. The idea that an enforced ceiling of 5 per cent increase in dividends can be regarded as remotely fair in the context of a rate of inflation of well over double that figure, together with increased taxation on the savings of people - pejoratively described as unearned income - is not a proposition which can be seriously examined. Even though the restriction on dividend increases and high inflation were existent before he took office, I would make a plea to the Prime Minister to consider whether the present regulations are consistent with his own pledge to work for one people throughout this nation.

Today we are bound to ask the question - are we witnessing an assault upon the whole system of free enterprise which would have most serious consequences, or is there still recognition that while we live in a mixed economy the prosperity of everyone in the United Kingdom depends upon the creation and perpetuation of a climate in which free enterprise can flourish and personal responsibility is encouraged? The Chancellor appears to accept this, but there are worrying signs that there are others who seek to pursue a policy diametrically opposed to this. It is quite essential that investment in free enterprise companies should be serviced buoyantly out of earnings, otherwise

shareholders - whether private or institutional - will become disenchanted with their investments and companies will be unable to raise the money necessary for the new plant, machinery and equipment so vital to bring Britain up to date. Year in year out plough-backs from retained earnings cannot provide what is needed to achieve this. Let us be quite clear that nothing can prevent reduced living standards in the next few years unless a greater proportion of the leadership in this country at all levels and throughout society shows itself a great deal more effective than it is today. In the last year we have seen a dramatic change in the terms of trade against countries like Britain, which are primarily processing shops - importing raw materials and upgrading them for export as well as for home consumption. These exports, together with the invisible earnings of Britain, constitute the method by which Britain lives. This is how we pay for our essential imported foodstuffs and other necessities of life, and the task is getting harder, not easier, because of this change in the terms of trade. A large increase in the price of oil has been accompanied by a greatly increased rise in the cost of imported foodstuffs and other raw materials, and we need all our wits, energy and effective work to counter-balance these disadvantages. In other words we must practise a more unified effort by the nation as a whole, as opposed to the divisiveness, and I might even say self-centredness, of some sections of the community at the expense of the rest. During the last 10 years the profits of private enterprise, in the U.K., after deducting all forms of government assistance totalling £6,000 million, have amounted to around £28,000 million. During the same period the total profits of nationalised industries have been £294 million, and in this latter figure I have made no provision for some £4,000 million by way of subsidies and debt write-offs to the nationalised industries. To get a fair comparison, the ratio of employment in the private and public sectors is 8 to 1. One can easily see that the wealth produced by private enterprise is the keystone of our ability to live as a nation. In quoting this startling disparity of performance between private enterprise and nationalised industries I am not denigrating the management of some of the nationalised industries, nor suggesting that the private sector cannot do a great deal better than at present, but rather pointing to the consequence in practice of how governments exercise their responsibility, implicit in ownership, for nationalised industries. It should be a broad surveillance but too often becomes a frustrating interference which has hamstrung the commercial expertise of their managements; capital plans often become unreasonably delayed and their prices have been held down for too long on political grounds, with the inevitable result of a violent upsurge in order to square their accounts. This is not good for the nation. I implore the country to be very careful of further nationalisation. The Secretary of State for Industry has only in the last few

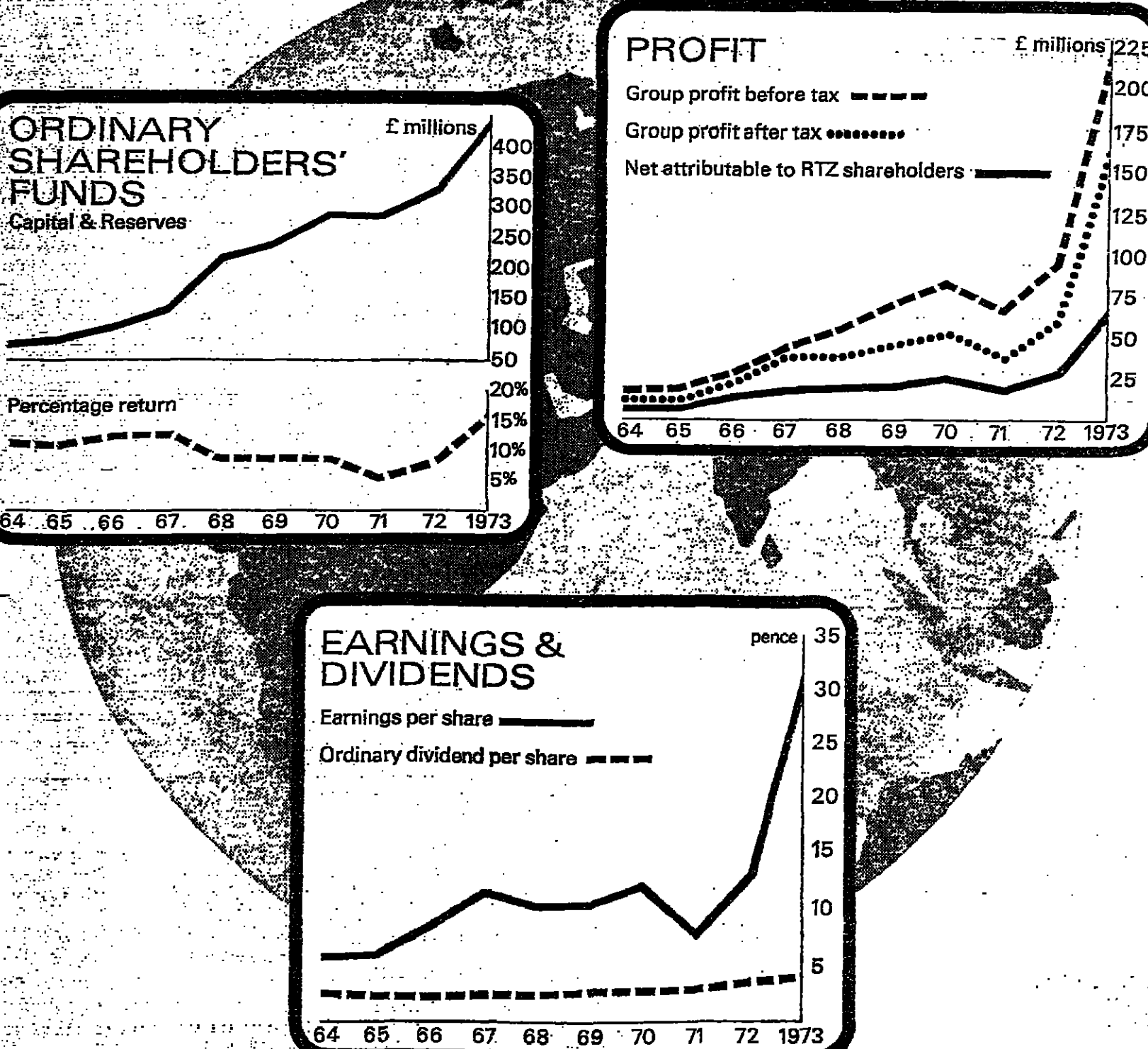
weeks re-iterated his intention to take into public ownership certain further sectors of the economy, and to impose further rigid controls on large companies. This is highly dangerous for Britain's future economic prosperity. On the other hand, as was reported in the Sunday Times of 28 April 1974, Mr. Wedgwood Benn complained: 'What we lack is any entrepreneurial ability in Government'. Exactly. It is entrepreneurial ability which sparks off the creation of wealth and consequently profits which in turn keeps Britain solvent. Anyone would think, from the utterances of a small but vociferous and articulate section of the community, and encouraged by some of the media, that private enterprise was positively anti-social. If a nation can get into such an intellectual muddle that the people are fed with a constant diet of how wicked it is to make profits, then how can you expect a sense of achievement in a country which is incited to bite the hand that feeds it? Our thinking is all wrong on this subject. We spend far too much time and effort trying to redistribute the existing wealth, rather than in encouraging the men and women of this country - who are our true wealth - to increase their effective performance and consequent growth of the economy, for which they should receive higher rewards. We are riddled with restrictive practices - by no means confined to the trade unions - as if we were in some sort of handicap race to bring the higher talent and achievement down to the lowest common denominator. The whole origin of the Welfare State was designed to produce a level below which none may fall and above which all may rise. It is to be regretted that much of the fine original thinking has been eroded. Can we not get back to a society which is less feather-bedded, whilst retaining that compassion and practical help for those who, through no fault of their own, need a safety net? I don't find the ordinary man in the street a naturally envious person, but I fear that his natural and sturdy self-reliance is becoming undermined by the dangerous assumption that he can achieve a full life by succumbing to a benevolent bureaucracy under which he can take out more than he puts in and if anything goes wrong the existing wealth can be redistributed. The latest Government figures available on this subject have exploded the latter myth and reveal that if you were to redistribute all the income of everyone earning more than £5,000 a year, this would amount to less than £1 per week per head for the rest. If you were to remove all the capital of everyone in excess of £20,000, including the value of your house, this would amount - on a once and for all distribution - to not more than £800 per head for the rest. There is therefore no substitute for individual self-reliant endeavour. We in industry must really work much more closely with the trade union movement but this cannot be a one-sided effort. We both have strong obligations to society as well as rights. We are here to serve the community, not to extrapolate our own egos with a false sense of power, and I for one welcome the opportunities for a closer understanding and the creation of mutual respect. This can only come about if sufficient authority, used with responsibility, resides at the appropriate levels in both companies and unions, and both refrain from abusing their short-term advantage in any situation. We must put the future prosperity of the country and all its people as the major aim from which all will benefit - the weak as well as the strong.

EUROPE

The opportunities which we have are no less exhilarating than the present climate is gloomy. Given some understanding by our mainland European partners in the EEC, and the promise a few years ahead of North Sea oil, we have - if we perform effectively - the prospects of a great European partnership of prosperity and influence in the world; but here again, we need the vision to see this, to understand clearly that we are talking about working towards a union of nations designed to achieve a major influence in the counsels of the world and, at the same time, to perpetuate the individuality and culture of every member country. We need, in short, to raise our mental sights. No nation worthy of the name can be galvanised by the price of butter, but it can be inspired by a leadership which has the courage to be prepared to share sovereignty in those matters essential for the well-being of a great continent. Of course we have to play our full part in an effective economic performance, to look outwards, uncluttered by bureaucracy. Thus we can reverse the present trend of Britain becoming the poor man of Europe and assure a material prosperity which is an essential concomitant to those less tangible aspects and which together make for the enjoyment of a full life for all our people.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF

Finally, I am sure you would wish to join with me in an expression of gratitude to all the men and women who work with us throughout the world. They have certainly proven that private enterprise practised on an international scale can be successful and forward-looking, and I thank them for their dedicated efforts.



RTZ The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation Limited

Copies of Sir Val Duncan's Speech, and the Annual Report for 1973, may be obtained from The Registrar, RTZ, Central Registration Ltd., 1 Redcliff Street, Bristol BS1 6NT, or The Secretary, 6 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4LD.

Airlines start fight against fuel costs

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

World airlines are to study new ways of reducing fuel costs, including the import of fuel direct from refineries and participation by airlines in refinery ownership.

The study has been initiated by the International Air Transport Association, which expressed itself yesterday as "extremely concerned" that fuel prices charged to airlines by their present suppliers were "considerably higher" than they need be.

Indications are that fuel prices in many cases are far higher than can be accounted for by the direct impact of the recent increases in the price of crude oil, IATA said.

According to IATA predictions issued yesterday, the industry faces an unrecoverable shortfall of some \$800m (about \$33m) for the period April, 1973, to August, 1974.

"Fuel prices are of particu-

lar concern to the world airline industry, as they are contributing to unprecedented increases in total costs", IATA said. "Other contributing factors are hyperinflation and increasing government levies on air transport operations."

As an example of the latter, we estimate that by the end of 1975, airport landing and associated charges, together with route navigation charges, are likely to exceed \$1,000m a year against \$650m in 1973.

Forecast revenues were insufficient to offset these huge cost increases and, despite fare and rate adjustments of up to 20 per cent since the end of 1973, there would be a worldwide shortfall of \$300m.

IATA also recommended yesterday a big increase in international airports of security measures against acts of air piracy, including the posting of uniformed and armed guards at key points.

Iran refinery projects: A team

of experts from the Shell Oil Company headquarters in the United States is expected in Iran next week to conclude talks for the establishment of a big oil refinery near the Persian Gulf port of Bushehr, with an annual capacity of 25 million tons, our Tehran correspondent writes.

Sources from the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) said that the projected refinery would be near another oil refinery to be constructed with the technical assistance and co-operation of West Germany.

An advance party from Shell is already in Tehran to work out the agenda of high-level talks scheduled to start on May 28 when an agreement is expected to be completed between NIOC and Shell.

According to the sources, Shell has proposed more favourable terms than those offered by the West Germans for building an oil refinery of similar size. Under the Shell

agreement, NIOC has been offered additional shares in the distribution of refined products on the eastern coast of the United States.

Exxon to end supplies to Fuji: Fuji Kusan, the Japanese oil company, announced in Tokyo that it had received a notice from Exxon International saying it would not renew the current crude oil supply contract with the company, which is to expire at the end of June. Fuji said it was the first Japanese oil refinery to be refused oil supplies by Exxon.

Exxon International recently informed Japanese oil refineries, including Fuji Kusan, Idemitsu Kusan and Kyodo Sekiyu, that it might be unable to sign new crude oil supply contracts after the present contracts expire.

Exxon at present supplies 15,000 barrels of crude oil a day to Fuji Kusan—about 20 per cent of its total oil imports, Reuters.

Franklin NY may write tax losses off assets

New York, May 21.—Franklin New York Corporation's promised restatement of first quarter financial results may go well beyond the originally proposed adjustment for foreign exchange trading losses.

Sources said the troubled bank holding company was considering adjustments in several areas, including the treatment of losses carried forward for tax purposes in recent years. At least some, specialists said, might be written off Franklin's asset sheets because of poor earnings prospects.

Franklin New York, whose chief subsidiary is Franklin National Bank, announced on May 15 plans to omit second quarter dividends on its common and preferred stocks. It later disclosed a large loss in its foreign exchange department caused by what it termed unauthorized dealings by one of its traders.

According to Franklin's 1973 annual report, the company has a \$4.5m (£1.9m) of loss carry-forward that expires this year in a total carry-forward of \$22m of potential tax benefits valid until 1976 at latest.

Analysts say the bank holding company has little chance of making enough taxable income this year through normal operations to use the \$4.5m carry-forward.—AP-Dow Jones.

State land scheme attacked

Labour's land nationalization plans could mean greater opportunity for corruption and could badly damage the house-building industry, a builders' leader said yesterday.

Mr Dick Sinfield, president of the Housebuilders' Federation, said at Durham that the rosy dream of land nationalization "could easily turn out to be a nightmare for industry and the house buying public."

The Government should think "very seriously" before embarking on a course which could undermine land, property and money values and "damage the whole fabric of housing finance", he said.

A Government should set out proposals well ahead of legislation, so that the business and property men could prepare their views.

Mr Sinfield gave warning that the new local authorities did not have sufficient staff to implement the task of such a takeover. "And how much greater, under these circumstances, will be the temptations and opportunities for graft and corruption?", he said.

The real answer to the economic problems was to restore the commercial strength of currencies.

Mr Sinfield also questioned whether building land was so expensive as to justify "draconian" measures.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Seat belts, insurers and injury damages

From Mr J. Shepherd

Sir, Since criticism of the judiciary seems to be very much the current vogue, may I add my voice to that of Mr David Green (May 18).

On the same day as his letter was published, your Law Report was concerned with the case of Smith and Another v Blackburn, wherein Mr Justice O'Connor agreed with the previous comments of Mr Justice Shaw and said that car drivers and passengers who are injured in a road accident and who fail to wear seat belts should not have their damages reduced.

The underlying theme in the dicta of both judges seems to be that it is improper for insurers to obtain the benefit of any reduction of damages in such cases.

If one considers the statements of insurance company chairmen over the past years, one would soon see that this is not the case. Motor insurance generally has been running at a loss for many years for two main reasons:

First, the ever increasing cost of car repairs and, secondly, the continual increase in awards by the judiciary.

So far as the first reason is concerned, insurers are making valiant efforts to contain the rate of increase by such means as the Repair Research Centre at Thatcham, which is run jointly by the BIA and Lloyd's, and the use of approved repairers.

However, as regards the second, they are fighting a losing battle since the effects of the pronouncements of Mr Justice Shaw and Mr Justice O'Connor means that in the thousands of other seat belt cases which do not reach court,

insurers' chances of obtaining reduction in damages are considerably diminished.

Consequently, this situation and there is thus one additional cause for the inflation with which we are faced.

I suggest that the judges should realize that they have a part to play in controlling inflation, and could in fact start by accepting that showing conclusively that wearing of seat belts reduces the extent of injury.

It is therefore a logical common sense consequence that damages should be reduced in those cases where driver passengers who are injured have failed to wear seat belts available.

J. SHEPHERD,
38 Templecombe Way,
Morden, Surrey.

The two-tier interest system and Britain

From Mr D. F. J. Paterson

Sir, I have been very disappointed by the failure of the press and, indeed, the Bank of England to investigate the possibility of a two-tiered interest system to be applied in the United Kingdom.

One of the two principal problems in this country is inflation (the other being interest rates) which itself may be partially alleviated if inflation is controlled).

One of the most important contributory factors to inflation over the past 18 months has been the increasing demand for money to both the private individual and to industry. The cost of mortgages has increased by about 50 per cent during the period, and the price of consumer and capital goods has increased greatly in the same time, part of the increase being due to increased financing costs.

Clearly, it is not possible to lower interest rates at a stroke within the United Kingdom because of the inevitable flight from sterling, the consequent fall in the sterling rate against foreign currencies and the subsequent effect upon the vital export business of this country.

It is imperative to retain the sterling rate against foreign currencies and, to this end, we must make available the rate of interest which is sufficiently attractive vis-à-vis foreign rates to maintain the sterling rate.

We pay a rate of interest to foreign holders of sterling, and this cost, whatever the system, is borne by the United Kingdom taxpayer in one form or another. If the rate of interest paid by United Kingdom borrowers and payable to United Kingdom lenders is reduced, it need not affect the cost to the United Kingdom economy if the foreign interest rates are maintained at their current levels.

The consequence of a change to a two-tiered interest system would be twofold:

(a) a reduction in costs of United Kingdom products and services without altering the foreign exchange rate—thus making exports more attractive both for foreign buyers and United Kingdom producers, and

(b) a reduction in the expenses of the private individual through lowered mortgage and interest costs and hopefully the lowered cost of food and other goods.

Of course, the introduction of such a two-tiered interest structure would be totally ineffective without at least two controls:

First, there would need to be devised a strict monitoring system of all movements of capital (and indeed income which could eventually become itself interest-bearing). Furthermore, if we assume that domestic interest base rate was 7 per cent per annum and external interest base rate 13 per cent per annum, then in the

event that a United Kingdom resident obtained permission to lend sterling to a non-resident, 6 per cent would be payable to a bank of England redemption account.

In the event that a United Kingdom resident sterling to a United Kingdom borrower, then the United Kingdom borrower would be reimbursed by the Bank of England a loan equalization account of 6 per cent.

These interest base rates, of course, reflect the rate charged or paid—a risk factor has to be evaluated by the lender—but the rate would be adhered to as long as the differential between domestic and external rates remained at that level.

Secondly, the United Kingdom financial institutions should be placed under instructions not to increase amounts of lending above levels currently in force.

I would hope that discussion would begin to explore a scheme as soon as possible. Labour Government come to reducing inflation, lowering of interest rates, be particularly sympathetic.

There is no reason why countries should not also have external rates could be unilaterally reduced.

Yours faithfully,
D. F. J. PATERSON,
37/38 Chancery Lane,
London, WC2.

Outlawing non-returnable bottles: who pays the cost

From Mrs Kathleen Rigg

Sir, The suggestion that like the State of Nevada, non-returnable bottles should be outlawed, is all very well but who is to bear the cost?

After seven years as a small grocer and draper, I decided last month because of a bottle deposit increase, to cost all our crates and bottle deposits, only to discover that I have a minimum of £5.66 per week permanently dead capital.

This sum, recycled weekly on other items with a quick turnover, is £260 per year, and represents a loss of potential profit, if invested to advantage, of from £750 per annum upwards.

With artificially depressed profits, and ever-increasing overheads, what small shopkeeper can continue to indulge in this extravagance for a minimum return on the product itself?

As a result, we have switched immediately to non-returnable bottles, and canned drinks just as we have systematically, over the last two years, eliminated all those extra, but slow-moving lines which the public likes to

have available for "occasional purchase."

At first sight there may appear to be a link between hard prices and your leader on subsidies, but the full economic cost of production and distribution has to be met in the end at whatever stage it becomes a liability or the capital employed can be most usefully deployed elsewhere, it simply disappears!

KATHLEEN RIGG,
Key & Ivy,
30 Silver Street,
South Farnham.

Increase in US consumer price index is lowest for seven months

From Frank Vogl
Washington, May 21

The United States Consumer Price Index rose by 0.6 per cent last month, the lowest monthly rate of increase since last September. It went up by 1.1 per cent in March and the rise on an unadjusted basis for the last 12 months has been 10.2 per cent, the Department of Labour announced.

The decline in the rise in the index in April is seen by most bankers as a temporary lull with the May index expected to show a significant increase in view of the large number of price rises that came after the ending of controls on April 30.

Furthermore, bankers point out that the Federal Reserve appears to have eased in its money supply policies as a reaction to the problems of the Franklin National Bank and because of widespread fears of serious disruption in the banking sector.

Fed funds paid today to 84 per cent to 9 per cent from around 11 per cent yesterday and 1.1 per cent on Friday. If these new low rates hold then bankers are confident that significant declines in prime and other short-term rates will be seen soon.

The government has been predicting a slowing in the pace of inflation, based largely on expectations of food price declines. In April food prices fell by 0.3 per cent, but prices of services and non-food commodities rose by 0.6 per cent and 1.3 per cent respectively.

The April index stood at 144 (1967=100) and based on figures for the past three months the seasonally adjusted annual rate of consumer price rises is down to 12.1 per cent, against 14.2 per cent in March.

The flood of industrial price rises that followed the ending of controls continues unabated. The government, according to top officials, believe this to be only a "temporary bulge" in the inflation curve.

It expects that the levelling off of commodity prices, coupled with lower food prices resulting from a record harvest, will see a significant cut in the

inflation level to around 6 per cent at the end of the year.

Many bankers believe that industrial price rises will largely offset the gains made through lower food prices and they are a lot less confident about the outlook for non-food commodities.

The sharp rises in phosphate prices by Morocco and the attempt by Jamaica to push through a big price rise for bauxite are factors that are making bankers wary of forecasting commodity price trends now.

The government is also hopeful, the officials said, that the Federal Reserve System can pursue tighter monetary policies to quell inflation. A report just published by the Fed on its open market committee meeting in February shows that some of its governing members oppose tougher policies for fear of the strain that might be caused in the banking system.

The government is also hopeful of only modest wage rises this year with officials talking about increases of around 7 per cent.

Power tools' 'top profitability'

By Anthony Rowley

The most profitable British engineering business in the five years up to 1973 was portable power tools where the average return on capital was more than 25 per cent in each year.

This emerges from the latest edition of the National Economic Development Office publication covering company financial results in the mechanical engineering sector. Total sales of the 383 companies surveyed exceed £5,300m and account for some three-quarters of the industry's output.

The return on capital employed is measured before interest and tax are taken from profits. The portable power tool sector

also shared the highest margin of profits to sales (14.4 per cent) with boilerhouse plant, which achieved an identical margin.

Compressors and pneumatic tools along with other engineering groups, such as scales and weighing machinery, plastics and rubber machinery, achieved a return on capital of more than 15 per cent over the five years covered by the survey.

Boilerhouse plant, pumps and valves, space heating, central heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment manufacturers all achieved "well above average" profitability.

Cranes, hoists, lifts, escalators, railway equipment and boiler sectors were at the opposite extreme with a median return of

less than 10 per cent over the period.

An important qualification to the NEDO findings is that it covered a period "before the main upsurge in orders which began in the second half of 1972 had worked through to profits."

In an introduction to the survey, Dr Frank Jones, the new chairman of the Mechanical Engineering EDC, emphasises that failure to adjust accounts for the effects of inflation is likely to lead to a serious overstatement of real profits, to inadequate provision for depreciation and to other distortions.

Company Financial Results 1968/69-1972/73; NEDDO Books, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London; 85p.

'One umbrella' proposal for fuel industries

The Government "will bear in mind" an MP's suggestion that the nationalized fuel industries should be brought under one umbrella so that there can be a common policy on energy conservation, Dr Gavin Strang, Parliamentary Secretary for Energy, said in a letter yesterday. He was replying to Mr David Stoddart, Labour MP for Swindon, who had complained to him about wasteful advertising by these industries.

Dr Strang said: "They are well aware of the need to encourage people not to waste energy. Their promotion and advertising policies are very much marked by their own commercial judgement but they are now directing these policies much more closely to the need to conserve energy."

"You suggest that in the long term these industries should be brought under one umbrella so there can be a common policy on energy conservation. My department is already engaged in developing all aspects of energy policy and is working on proposals for encouraging its more efficient use."

More tourists coming to UK

Tourism figures for March show an increase of 12 per cent in the number of overseas visitors to the United Kingdom compared with March last year.

The 388,000 visitors in March bring the total for the first quarter to 5 per cent above last year. Arrivals from the United States, which in previous years accounted for about 25 per cent of the total, are still running at a low level, however.

The latest figures show a drop for the quarter of 20 per cent below 1973.

ICI in Japanese pharmaceutical pact

ICI is to set up a pharmaceutical company in Japan, the company announced yesterday. It is the result of a pact with the Japanese Sumitomo Chemical Company to set up a joint venture. ICI-Pharma. The agreement is subject to the approval of the Japanese government.

ICI-Pharma, which is expected to start operations in October, will have the right to import, manufacture and sell ICI's pharmaceuticals in Japan.

BRENT WALKER LIMITED



(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1929—Registered No. 250419)

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the whole of the enlarged issued Ordinary stock units of Brent Walker Limited to be admitted to the Official List.

SHARE CAPITAL

| Authorized | Issued and to be issued fully paid |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| £450,000 | £350,000 |

Ordinary shares and stock units of 5p each

Full particulars are available from Extel Statistical Services and Moodies Statistical Services and can also be obtained from:

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited
23 Great Winchester Street, London EC2P 2AX.

Laing & Cruickshank
The Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HA.

A. J. Pryor & Co.
194-200 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4LJ
and The Stock Exchange.

G.R.A. PROPERTY TRUST LIMITED

| | Year Ended 31st Dec. 1973 | Nine Month Period to Dec. 1973 |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Turnover of the Group | £13,958,582 | £8,472,154 |
| Trading Profit of the Group (including share of profit of Associated Companies) | £2,603,367 | £1,480,988 |
| Profit of the Group before Tax | £1,529,170 | £1,121,060 |
| Net Profit of the Group after Tax available for dividend | £742,914 | £718,733 |
| Representing earnings per share of | 3.40p | 2.42p |

A Directors' valuation undertaken in April 1974 of certain of the Group's properties shows an estimated market value of £23,096,000. This represents a surplus of £9,719,000, attributable to the Group's interests in these particular properties.

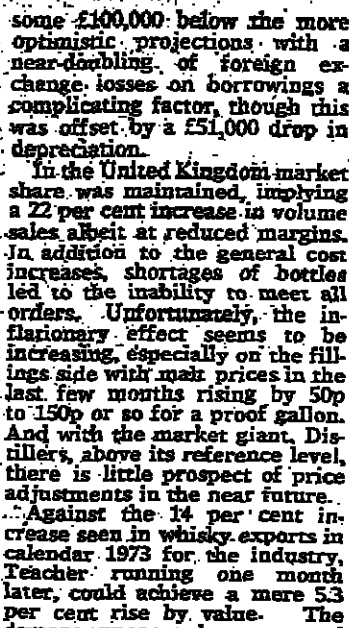
The surplus assets produce a book value equivalent to 31p per share.

The foregoing represents only a small part of the Group's property assets and does not include approximately 77 acres of stadium land where greyhound racing will continue as at present; nor does it include any value for the Group's equity interests in the 35 acres at White City London, 25 acres at Harringay nor the approximately 10 acres at White City Manchester.

In addition, there are some 370 acres of 'White Land' which have not been included in the revaluation.

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from The Secretary, G.R.A. Property Trust Limited, White City Stadium, Wood Lane, London W12 7RT.

Uncertainties ahead for Vavasseur



member of the Bolton Committee of Inquiry into Small Business was, until his retirement,

1992-1993

...the application of com-
puter systems to government
administration, with the aim of

It is no doubt Weston's own

However, the speculator is important because his continuous trading interest is necessary for really broad and active markets which are essential for effective hedging.

He is the risk-bearer and assumes the responsibilities which the hedger seeks to avoid. But it must be emphasized that commodity exchanges or reputable dealers do not encourage uninformed public speculation.

assistance (badly needed by a country which lacks even basic economic statistics) from the nations which have trod the road of economic development before it.

erage with bells or failures, but there was none the less a sudden exodus from the gallery. The market breathed again, however, when they realized it was all due in a party of tourists leaving en masse to see the Stock Exchange's fulsome film show.

Orion

Insurance

1973
THE QUEEN'S AWARD
TO INDUSTRY
for export achievement

1973: Higher gross profit

- * Profit before tax at £2,561,000 showed a 25% increase over 1972
- * Marine and Aviation Accounts again produced very satisfactory profits
- * Home Fire and Accident Business resulted in a loss—mainly incurred in the Motor Account. Other classes continued to develop as planned
- * Investment Income increased by over 50%
- * Dividend increased to the maximum permitted

| | 1969 £'000 | 1970 £'000 | 1971 £'000 | 1972 £'000 | 1973 £'000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Premiums | 11,872 | 12,681 | 12,743 | 15,300 | 16,100 |
| Investment Income† | 1,059 | 1,210 | 1,267 | 1,406 | 2,175 |
| Underwriting Results | (321) | (248) | 481 | 703 | 770 |
| Shareholders Funds | 3,993 | 4,352 | 4,933 | 5,616 | 7,377 |
| Earnings* (pence per share)— net profit after tax and excluding items dealt with in reserves | 11.00 | 15.32 | 26.26 | 31.98 | 30.06 |
| Gross Dividend* (pence per share) | 6.00 | 6.75 | 7.80 | 8.19 | 8.60 |

*adjusted to a comparable basis

†excluding non-recurring interest 1971 and 1972

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 12 June in London.

Copies of the full Report, Accounts and Chairman's Statement
can be obtained from The Secretary, The Orion Insurance Company Limited,
70-72 King William Street, London EC4N 7BT.

The Orion Insurance Company Limited is a member of the British Insurance Association.

Bilton hoists profit to peak £3m

[illegible]

DOUGLAS

CIVIL ENGINEERING & BUILDING CONTRACTORS

BIRMINGHAM • CARDIFF • LIVERPOOL • LONDON • STOCKTON • SWANSEA

London and Regional Market Prices

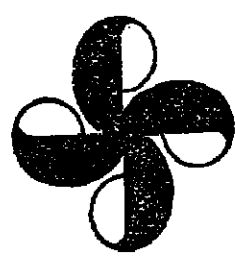
Financials nervous

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 13 Dealings End, May 23 Contango Day, May 24 Settlement Day, June 4
 § Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

استاذ المحاسبين

Acut above the rest!
Drummonds
 Freedom
Suitings

| 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 | 1899 | 1898 | 1897 | 1896 | 1895 | 1894 | 1893 | 1892 | 1891 | 1890 | 1889 | 1888 | 1887 | 1886 | 1885 | 1884 | 1883 | 1882 | 1881 | 1880 | 1879 | 1878 | 1877 | 1876 | 1875 | 1874 | 1873 | 1872 | 1871 | 1870 | 1869 | 1868 | 1867 | 1866 | 1865 | 1864 | 1863 | 1862 | 1861 | 1860 | 1859 | 1858 | 1857 | 1856 | 1855 | 1854 | 1853 | 1852 | 1851 | 1850 | 1849 | 1848 | 1847 | 1846 | 1845 | 1844 | 1843 | 1842 | 1841 | 1840 | 1839 | 1838 | 1837 | 1836 | 1835 | 1834 | 1833 | 1832 | 1831 | 1830 | 1829 | 1828 | 1827 | 1826 | 1825 | 1824 | 1823 | 1822 | 1821 | 1820 | 1819 | 1818 | 1817 | 1816 | 1815 | 1814 | 1813 | 1812 | 1811 | 1810 | 1809 | 1808 | 1807 | 1806 | 1805 | 1804 | 1803 | 1802 | 1801 | 1800 | 1799 | 1798 | 1797 | 1796 | 1795 | 1794 | 1793 | 1792 | 1791 | 1790 | 1789 | 1788 | 1787 | 1786 | 1785 | 1784 | 1783 | 1782 | 1781 | 1780 | 1779 | 1778 | 1777 | 1776 | 1775 | 1774 | 1773 | 1772 | 1771 | 1770 | 1769 | 1768 | 1767 | 1766 | 1765 | 1764 | 1763 | 1762 | 1761 | 1760 | 1759 | 1758 | 1757 | 1756 | 1755 | 1754 | 1753 | 1752 | 1751 | 1750 | 1749 | 1748 | 1747 | 1746 | 1745 | 1744 | 1743 | 1742 | 1741 | 1740 | 1739 | 1738 | 1737 | 1736 | 1735 | 1734 | 1733 | 1732 | 1731 | 1730 | 1729 | 1728 | 1727 | 1726 | 1725 | 1724 | 1723 | 1722 | 1721 | 1720 | 1719 | 1718 | 1717 | 1716 | 1715 | 1714 | 1713 | 1712 | 1711 | 1710 | 1709 | 1708 | 1707 | 1706 | 1705 | 1704 | 1703 | 1702 | 1701 | 1700 | 1699 | 1698 | 1697 | 1696 | 1695 | 1694 | 1693 | 1692 | 1691 | 1690 | 1689 | 1688 | 1687 | 1686 | 1685 | 1684 | 1683 | 1682 | 1681 | 1680 | 1679 | 1678 | 1677 | 1676 | 1675 | 1674 | 1673 | 1672 | 1671 | 1670 | 1669 | 1668 | 1667 | 1666 | 1665 | 1664 | 1663 | 1662 | 1661 | 1660 | 1659 | 1658 | 1657 | 1656 | 1655 | 1654 | 1653 | 1652 | 1651 | 1650 | 1649 | 1648 | 1647 | 1646 | 1645 | 1644 | 1643 | 1642 | 1641 | 1640 | 1639 | 1638 | 1637 | 1636 | 1635 | 1634 | 1633 | 1632 | 1631 | 1630 | 1629 | 1628 | 1627 | 1626 | 1625 | 1624 | 1623 | 1622 | 1621 | 1620 | 1619 | 1618 | 1617 | 1616 | 1615 | 1614 | 1613 | 1612 | 1611 | 1610 | 1609 | 1608 | 1607 | 1606 | 1605 | 1604 | 1603 | 1602 | 1601 | 1600 | 1599 | 1598 | 1597 | 1596 | 1595 | 1594 | 1593 | 1592 | 1591 | 1590 | 1589 | 1588 | 1587 | 1586 | 1585 | 1584 | 1583 | 1582 | 1581 | 1580 | 1579 | 1578 | 1577 | 1576 | 1575 | 1574 | 1573 | 1572 | 1571 | 1570 | 1569 | 1568 | 1567 | 1566 | 1565 | 1564 | 1563 | 1562 | 1561 | 1560 | 1559 | 1558 | 1557 | 1556 | 1555 | 1554 | 1553 | 1552 | 1551 | 1550 | 1549 | 1548 | 1547 | 1546 | 1545 | 1544 | 1543 | 1542 | 1541 | 1540 | 1539 | 1538 | 1537 | 1536 | 1535 | 1534 | 1533 | 1532 | 1531 | 1530 | 1529 | 1528 | 1527 | 1526 | 1525 | 1524 | 1523 | 1522 | 1521 | 1520 | 1519 | 1518 | 1517 | 1516 | 1515 | 1514 | 1513 | 1512 | 1511 | 1510 | 1509 | 1508 | 1507 | 1506 | 1505 | 1504 | 1503 | 1502 | 1501 | 1500 | 1499 | 1498 | 1497 | 1496 | 1495 | 1494 | 1493 | 1492 | 1491 | 1490 | 1489 | 1488 | 1487 | 1486 | 1485 | 1484 | 1483 | 1482 | 1481 | 1480 | 1479 | 1478 | 1477 | 1476 | 1475 | 1474 | 1473 | 1472 | 1471 | 1470 | 1469 | 1468 | 1467 | 1466 | 1465 | 1464 | 1463 | 1462 | 1461 | 1460 | 1459 | 1458 | 1457 | 1456 | 1455 | 1454 | 1453 | 1452 | 1451 | 1450 | 1449 | 1448 | 1447 | 1446 | 1445 | 1444 | 1443 | 1442 | 1441 | 1440 | 1439 | 1438 | 1437 | 1436 | 1435 | 1434 | 1433 | 1432 | 1431 | 1430 | 1429 | 1428 | 1427 | 1426 | 1425 | 1424 | 1423 | 1422 | 1421 | 1420 | 1419 | 1418 | 1417 | 1416 | 1415 | 1414 | 1413 | 1412 | 1411 | 1410 | 1409 | 1408 | 1407 | 1406 | 1405 | 1404 | 1403 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| 1259 | 1258 | 1257 | 1256 | 1255 | 1254 | 1253 | 1252 | 1251 | 1250 | 1249 | 1248 | 1247 | 1246 | 1245 | 1244 | 1243 | 1242 | 1241 | 1240 | 1239 | 1238 | 1237 | 1236 | 1235 | 1234 | 1233 | 1232 | 1231 | 1230 | 1229 | 1228 | 1227 | 1226 | 1225 | 1224 | 1223 | 1222 | 1221 | 1220 | 1219 | 1218 | 1217 | 1216 | 1215 | 1214 | 1213 | 1212 | 1211 | 1210 | 1209 | 1208 | 1207 | 1206 | 1205 | 1204 | 1203 | 1202 | 1201 | 1200 | 1199 | 1198 | 1197 | 1196 | 1195 | 1194 | 1193 | 1192 | 1191 | 1190 | 1189 | 1188 | 1187 | 1186 | 1185 | 1184 | 1183 | 1182 | 1181 | 1180 | 1179 | 1178 | 1177 | 1176 | 1175 | 1174 | 1173 | 1172 | 1171 | 1170 | 1169 | 1168 | 1167 | 1166 | 1165 | 1164 | 1163 | 1162 | 1161 | 1160 | 1159 | 1158 | 1157 | 1156 | 1155 | 1154 | 1153 | 1152 | 1151 | 1150 | 1149 | 1148 | 1147 | 1146 | 1145 | 1144 | 1143 | 1142 | 1141 | 1140 | 1139 | 1138 | 1137 | 1136 | 1135 | 1134 | 1133 | 1132 | 1131 | 1130 | 1129 | 1128 | 1127 | 1126 | 1125 | 1124 | 1123 | 1122 | 1121 | 1120 | 1119 | 1118 | 1117 | 1116 | 1115 | 1114 | 1113 | 1112 | 1111 | 1110 | 1109 | 1108 | 1107 | 1106 | 1105 | 1104 | 1103 | 1102 | 1101 | 1100 | 1099 | 1098 | 1097 | 1096 | 1095 | 1094 | 1093 | 1></ |
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Strutt and Parker

COUNTRY HOUSES

CHESHIRE

Manchester 12 miles. Macclesfield 3 miles.



ENDON HALL, BOLLINGTON

A Fine Period Country House

In rural setting, with superb views. Hall, 2 Reception Rooms, Billiards Room, 8 Main Bedrooms, 2 Dressing Rooms, 3 Bathrooms, Nursery, 5 Secondary Bedrooms, Oil Central Heating. Adjoining Staff Cottage. Castellated courtyard with garaging and stables. Well-maintained gardens. Paddock and Woodland.

About 8 Acres

Lodge Cottage, in separate lot.

AUCTION ON 17th JULY, 1974 (unless previously sold)

London Office, and Grantham Office. (Ref. 4AB825)

YORKSHIRE

Wentbridge 3 miles. Doncaster 8 miles.



FINE QUEEN ANNE COUNTRY HOUSE

with well proportioned rooms. In mature grounds

Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Study, 7 Bedrooms, 2 Dressing Rooms, 3 Bathrooms. Staff Accommodation, Electric Storage Heating. Gardens and Grounds of About 4 Acres.

Stable block. Garaging and 2 Cottages available in addition.

Offers invited.

London Office and Grantham Office.

(Ref. 4AB614)

COUNTY OF NAIRN

Nairn 2½ miles. Inverness 18 miles.



A FINE LISTED REGENCY COUNTRY HOUSE IN MATURE PARKLAND SETTING

Reception Hall, 4 Reception Rooms, 5 Principal Bedrooms, 2 Secondary Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms. Domestic Quarters. Extensive Basement Accommodation. Part Central Heating. Walled garden and grounds of about 20 acres. Garage Block with 4 Cottages, adjoining derelict steading with outline planning permission for conversion to 4 further cottages.

Modernised Detached Cottage (Lot)

For Sale Privately as a Whole or in 3 Lots.

Edinburgh Office.

(Ref. 3B8635)

WILTS/GLOS.

Between Chippenham and Bath 3 miles. M4 3 miles.



A DELIGHTFULLY SITUATED EARLY 18th CENTURY MILL

In the heart of the Beaufort Hunt Country.

Reception Hall, 4 Reception Rooms, Utility Room, 5 Bedrooms, 2 Dressing Rooms, 4 Bathrooms. Full Oil Central Heating. Staff/Guest Cottage. Potential Staff Maisonette. Garaging for 5 cars. Outbuildings. Garden intersected by Mill Stream. Fishing. Paddock.

About 7 Acres

Salisbury Office.

(Ref. 7AB1171)

MID ESSEX

Witham 3½ miles. Liverpool Street 45 minutes.

AN OUTSTANDING FULLY RESTORED FARMHOUSE

Featuring a magnificent 14th Century Aisled Hall.

3 Principal Reception Rooms, 5 Bedrooms, Bathroom. Full Central Heating. Walled Courtyard. Garaging. Stabling. Garden, grounds and paddocks.

About 12 Acres

Chelmsford Office.

(Ref. 2AB1143)

CENTRAL ESSEX

Witham 3 miles. Liverpool Street 45 minutes.

A CHARMING FAMILY HOUSE

with superb views over open country and the Blackwater Estuary

Entrance Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Conservatory, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. Oil Central Heating. Double Garage. Outbuildings. Gardens and Grounds. Tennis Court.

About 2 Acres

£48,000

Chelmsford Office.

(Ref. 2BB1137)

NORFOLK/SUFFOLK

with delightful views over the Waveney Valley.



THE MANOR HOUSE, SYLEHAM, NR. DISS, NORFOLK

A lovely Georgian House in excellent order.

Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Breakfast Room, Study, Kitchen and Cloakroom, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 3 Attic Rooms. Central Heating. Adjoining Coach House Cottage. Large sitting Room/Bedroom, Kitchen, Bathroom. Central Heating.

About 80 Acres

Excellent grazing and arable land with extensive farm buildings. 1,000 yards River Frontage with good coarse fishing.

For Sale Privately as a whole or in two lots.

Ipswich Office.

(Ref. 5AA137)

MID-SUSSEX

Horsham 6 miles. Victoria 50 minutes.



A SPACIOUS HOUSE WITH XVIIIth CENTURY FEATURES

In a superb position with views towards the Downs.

Hall, 4 Reception Rooms, 7 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms. Central Heating. Stable Block with Garaging. Stabling. 2 Staff Cottages. Detached Cottage. Well stocked garden, paddock.

About 18½ Acres

London and Lewes Offices

(Ref. 1AB4248)

SUSSEX—NEWICK

Haywards Heath 6 miles. Lewes 6 miles.

A CHARMING AND SPACIOUS GEORGIAN FAMILY HOUSE

on the edge of this Attractive village.

3 Reception Rooms, 7 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, Dressing Room, Breakfast Room, Playroom. Oil Central Heating. Double Garage. Secluded gardens.

About 3 Acres

Lewes Office.

(Ref. 8BD731)

SUSSEX

Between Crowborough and Buxted. London 60 minutes.

A DISTINCTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE

in a beautiful rural position.

Reception Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, 2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms (1 en suite). Oil Central Heating. Attractive 3 Bedroom Cottage and Garage Block. Loose Boxes. Delightful Garden, Large Pond and Paddock.

About 5½ Acres

Lewes Office.

(Ref. 8AE781)

NORTH ESSEX

Sible Hedingham, Braintree 7 miles. Liverpool Street 1 hour.



AN HISTORIC FULLY RESTORED MANOR HOUSE OF GREAT CHARACTER

with fine country views, set in attractive grounds on the edge of the village.

4 Reception Rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. Oil Central Heating. Garage. Outbuildings. Well maintained 1½ acre garden. Additional land of 6½ acres.

In All About 7½ Acres

Chelmsford Office.

(Ref. 2BB1110)

ESSEX—THORPE-LE-SOKEN

Colchester 13 miles.

AN IMPOSING VICARAGE

situated in spacious grounds on the outskirts of the village. Entrance Hall, 5 Reception Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. Central Heating. Garage. Outbuildings. Timbered gardens and grounds. Building Plot.

About 12 Acres

Auction in 1 or 2 lots on 14th June, 1974.

Chelmsford Office.

(Ref. 2BB1131)

NORTH SUFFOLK

Diss 5 miles. Liverpool Street 120 minutes.

AN ATTRACTIVE PERIOD HOUSE

in unspoilt rural position. Entrance Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Study, Breakfast Room, Utility Room, Large Kitchen, 5 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. Outbuildings. Large Garden.

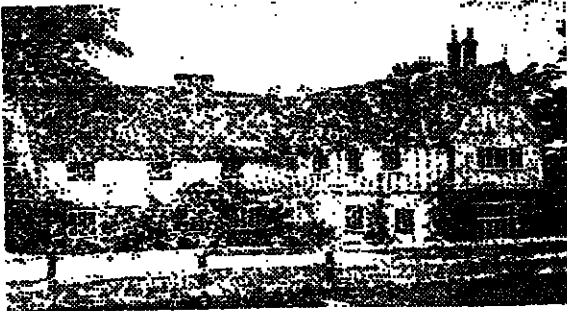
About 1 Acre

Ipswich Office.

(Ref. 5CN091)

HERTFORDSHIRE

Hitchin 1½ miles. King's Cross 37 minutes.



HALF-TIMBERED MANOR HOUSE DATING FROM XVth CENTURY

In secluded rural position.

Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, 7 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms. Oil Central Heating. Garaging and Stabling. Useful farm buildings including Medieval Tythe Barn. Easily maintained garden. Hard Tennis Court and paddock. Excellent Pasture Land.

About 81 Acres

Joint Sole Agents: Smiths Gore, Tel. 0733 67231 and Strutt & Parker, London Office.

(Ref. 1AL4279)

LEICS/NOTTS

Melton 8 miles. Nottingham 19 miles.

WELL PROPORTIONED, STONE BUILT EARLY VICTORIAN HOUSE

in unspoilt village in the Belvoir Hunt. Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Playroom, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom. Electric Central Heating. Garage. Stable and Outbuildings. Pleasant Garden and paddock.

About 1.34 Acres

Grantham Office.

£32,500

(Ref. 4BE584)

KENT—LYDDEN

Dover 6 miles. Canterbury 10 miles.

A DISTINCTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE

in a beautiful secluded position. Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Playroom, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. Oil Central Heating. Garage. Outbuildings. Hard Tennis Court. Garden and paddock.

About 5.4 Acres

Canterbury Office.

(Ref. 8CD005)

HAMPSHIRE

Petersfield Station 5 miles. Waterloo 1 hour.



A GEORGIAN STYLE HOUSE

in a rural setting with far reaching views. Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility Room, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Dressing Room. Oil Central Heating. Triple Garage. Staff Cottage. Easily maintained garden.

About 1½ Acres

Salisbury Office.

(Ref. 7AJ1120)

SUSSEX—CUCKFIELD

Haywards Heath 2 miles. London 47 minutes.

A CHARMING XVIIIth CENTURY FARMHOUSE

in a convenient rural position.

Hall, 4 Reception Rooms, Breakfast Room, 7 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms (1 en suite). Self-contained Flat. Central Heating. Garaging. Stabling. Staff Cottage. Well stocked garden. Heated Swimming Pool. Hard Tennis Court.

About 7.65 Acres

Joint Sole Agents: T. Bannister & Company, Tel. Haywards Heath 2402 and Strutt & Parker, London and Lewes Offices

(Ref. 1AB4288)

WEST SUSSEX

Haywards Heath Station 10 miles.

Victoria or London Bridge 45 minutes.

AN OUTSTANDING XVIIIth CENTURY MANOR HOUSE

in a secluded setting with views to the South Downs. Hall, 4 Reception Rooms, Staff Sitting Room, 8 Bedrooms, Dressing Room, 3 Bathrooms. Staff Accommodation with further Bathroom. Central Heating. Garaging. Stabling. Cottage. Entrance Lodge. Mature Garden. Paddocks. Hard Tennis Court. Swimming Pool.

About 22.09 Acres

London and Lewes Offices

(Ref. 1AB3710)

SUSSEX/KENT

Wadhurst 1½ miles. Tunbridge Wells 5 miles.



A COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER

in a rural position with fine views.

2 Reception Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, Dressing Room, 2 Bathrooms, Domestic Quarters, 2 Bedrooms. Self-contained flat. Oil Central Heating. Double Garage. Range of Outbuildings. Delightful mature grounds and pond. Paddock.

About 6 Acres

Cottage available if required.

Lewes Office.

(Ref. 8BE737)

SUSSEX—UCKFIELD

Close to the Town Centre.

A DELIGHTFUL EARLY 17th CENTURY FARMHOUSE

in a unique secluded position.

3 Reception Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, 3 Attic Bedrooms. Central Heating. Garden and Orchard.

About 1 Acre

Lewes Office.

(Ref. 8BD554)

KENT/SUSSEX

Hever main line station 1 mile. London 50 minutes.

ATTRACTIVE PERIOD HOUSE OF GEORGIAN DESIGN

with superb views to the North Downs.

3 Reception Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, Study, Games Room. Oil Central Heating. Double Garage. Secluded garden and paddock.

About 2½ Acres

Lewes Office.

(Ref. 6AD618)

London Office: 13 Hill Street, Berkeley Square, London W1X 8DL. Tel.: 01-629 7282

CANTERBURY
8 Rose Lane.
Tel.: (0227) 51123

CHELMSFORD
Coval Hall,
Tel.: (0245) 58201

EDINBURGH
26 Walker Street,
Tel.: 031-226 7431

GRANTHAM
55 High Street,
Tel.: (0476) 5886

IPSWICH
11 Museum Street,
Tel.: (0473) 214841

LEWES
201 High Street,
Tel.: (07916) 5411

SALISBURY
41 Milford Street,
Tel.: (0722) 28741

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA
14 Cliffdown Road,
Tel.: (0702) 40117

Strutt and Parker

ESTATES AND FARMS

THE COMPTON CHAMBERLAYNE ESTATE, NEAR SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE

Between Salisbury 8 miles and Shaftesbury 12 miles.



AN OUTSTANDING RESIDENTIAL, SPORTING AND INVESTMENT ESTATE
A 17th Century Down House, 3 Cottages, Gardens and Paddocks. About 237 Acres of Valuable Water Meadows, About 292 Acres of Mainly mature Woodland and a First Class Pheasant Shoot.
546 ACRES WITH VACANT POSSESSION
together with 3 Productive Arable and Stock Farms, Mill House, Village Stores, 12 Cottages and Houses, Parish Hall, Cricket Field and about 4,350 yards Double and 800 yards Single Bank Trout Fishing in the Nadder. Let and Producing £10,489 per annum.
IN ALL ABOUT 1,434 ACRES.
For Sale by Auction as a Whole on 25th June, 1974 (unless previously sold).
London Office and Salisbury Office. (Ref. 7AB1039)

Preliminary Announcement

HAMPSHIRE AND WILTSHIRE FIVE EXCELLENT ARABLE AND DAIRY FARMS IN ALL 5,495 ACRES

Comprising

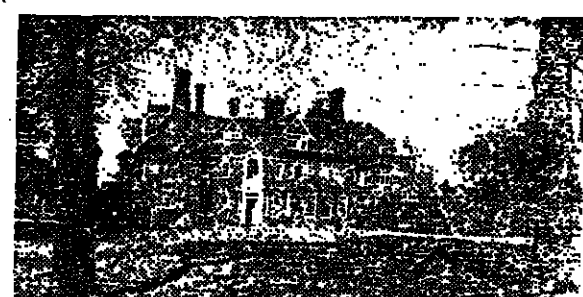
| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Manor Farm, North Oakley, Hants | 1,151 acres |
| Temple and Wick Farm, Marlborough | 2,675 acres |
| West Overton Farm, Marlborough | 748 acres |
| Manor Farm, Patney, Vale of Pewsey | 607 acres |
| Beechingstoke Farm, Vale of Pewsey | 315 acres |

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: Strutt & Parker, 13 Hill Street, London W1X 8DL (Tel. 01-629 7282)

THE WOODREDON AND WARLES PARK ESTATE, UPSHIRE, WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX

London 16 miles, M11 4 miles.



A Residential and Agricultural Estate on the edge of Epping Forest.
Woodredon House—4 Reception Rooms, 7 Principal Bedrooms, 7 Secondary Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms and Domestic Offices. 10 acres. 2 Cottages, detailed planning permission for farm cottage. 582 Acres of Arable Farmland. 168 Acres of Woodland.
ALL WITH VACANT POSSESSION
and 15 Cottages, Flat, Riding School, Poultry Unit, 2 ground rents and 28 Acres of Farmland.
Let and Producing with other income £8,241 p.a.
IN ALL ABOUT 812 ACRES.
AUCTION AS A WHOLE, IN BLOCKS OR 24 LOTS
on 11th July, 1974 (unless previously sold).
London Office and Chelmsford Office. (Ref. 2CD993)

Preliminary Announcement

CASTLE CARR ESTATE AND GROUSE MOOR, NR. HALIFAX

Bradford 10 miles, Leeds 20 miles.

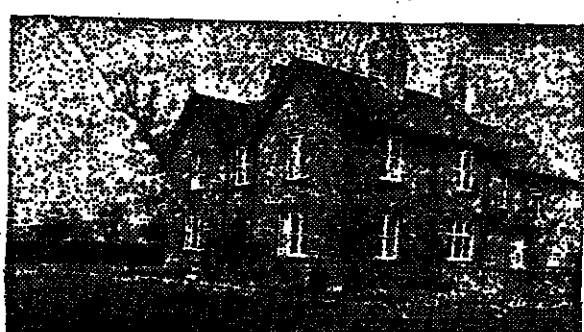


ABOUT 4,200 ACRES FREEHOLD
2,700 Acres in Hand. 1,500 Acres Subject to Agricultural Tenancies at £311 p.a.
SPORTING RIGHTS OVER TOTAL 5,100 ACRES.
143 Brecc Grouse.
Keeper's Cottage. Choice Site, Derelict part mansion, lodge and 3 Farmhouses.
Valley Grasslands. Woods. Hill and Moorlands.
WITH VACANT POSSESSION.
FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless previously sold).
Joint Agents: Ingham and York. Tel: 01876 23655.
London and Grantham Offices. (Ref. 4AA487)

Preliminary Announcement

THE PLUM TREE ESTATE, SOUTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

6 miles S.E. Nottingham, Melton Mowbray 13 miles.



A First Class Agricultural Investment.
Three Farms. Small holding. 2 Cottages.
Let and producing £9,226 p.a. rising to £10,134 p.a.
40 Acres Valuable Grassland with possession
11th October, 1974.
ABOUT 904 ACRES.
AUCTION—25th JULY, 1974 (unless previously sold).
Joint Auctioneers: Turner, Fletcher & Essex.
Tel: 0802 45967, and
Strutt & Parker, London Office and Grantham Offices.
(Ref. 4AA582)

Preliminary Announcement

THE ALDERWASLEY HALL ESTATE, NR. MATLOCK, DERBYSHIRE

M1 10 miles, Derby 12 miles.

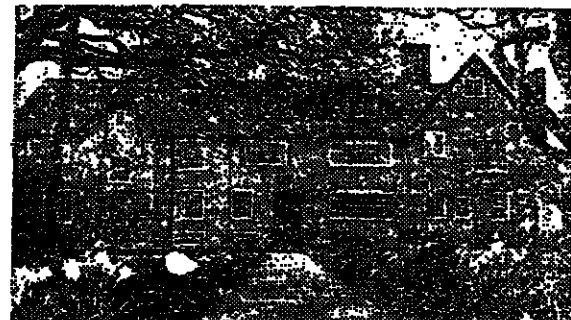


With Fine "Listed" Hall suitable for institutional user.
In lovely Parkland with notable views over Lower Peak District.
8 class and Recreation Rooms, Chapel, Laboratories, Washrooms, 13 Dormitories, 10 Masters' Rooms, Refectory Block with modern well equipped Kitchens, Dining Room, and Staff accommodation. 4 Flats, Annex, Theatre, Full Central Heating, Garaging, Swimming Pool, Tennis court, Mature parkland.
ABOUT 168 ACRES (154 acres subject to Tenancy).
Offers invited.
London Office and Grantham Office. (Ref. 4AB417)

By Direction of Michael Bamber, Esq.

DEANS FARM ESTATE, PIDDINGHOE, SUSSEX

Lewes 5 miles, Newhaven 1½ miles, Brighton 12 miles.



An Outstanding Residential and Agricultural Estate
With 17th Century House and Dairy or Arable Farm.
4 Reception Rooms, 6 Principal Bedrooms, 4 Attic Rooms, 2 Bathrooms, Breakfast Room, Garden Room, Study, Oil Central Heating. Excellent Secondary House. Staff Cottage. Garaging for 4. Swimming Pool and Changing Rooms. Beautiful gardens. Extensive Range of Farm-buildings. 3 Cottages.
ABOUT 333 ACRES.
Vacant Possession on Completion.
Joint Sole Agents: Rowland Gorrings & Co., 64 High Street, Lewes. Tel. 07916 4101 and Lindfield 2911 and Strutt & Parker, London Office and Lewes Office.
(Ref. 6AC7571)

THE HONILEY ESTATE, KENILWORTH, WARWICKSHIRE

Birmingham 12 miles, Coventry 9 miles.

A VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING INVESTMENT
811 Acres Let in 3 Units at Rents Totalling £13,100 p.a. together with 286 Acres of Woodland and 20 Acres Land in Hand.
Shooting Over The Estate Available from 1976.

IN ALL ABOUT 1,218 ACRES.

For Sale By Private Treaty.

Salisbury Office.

STANDON GREEN END FARM, NR. WARE, HERTFORDSHIRE

Between Puckeridge 3 miles and Ware 4 miles, London 28 miles.

A Sound Dairy and Arable Farm also suitable as a small stud

Including 17th Century Farmhouse—2 Reception Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, A pair of cottages, Substantial Farmbuildings including covered yards, and dairy. Medium to heavy clay loam soil with good sized paddocks.

ABOUT 187 ACRES.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

AUCTION AS A WHOLE ON 9th JULY, 1974

(unless previously sold).

London Office and Chelmsford Office. (Ref. 2CD1124)

EAST KENT—CHILHAM

Ashford 7½ miles, Canterbury 6 miles.

AN ATTRACTIVE BLOCK OF DOWNLAND

comprising:

About 113 Acres of Arable and Pasture

and About 94 Acres of Woodland.

IN ALL ABOUT 207 ACRES

With Vacant Possession

For Sale by Private Treaty.

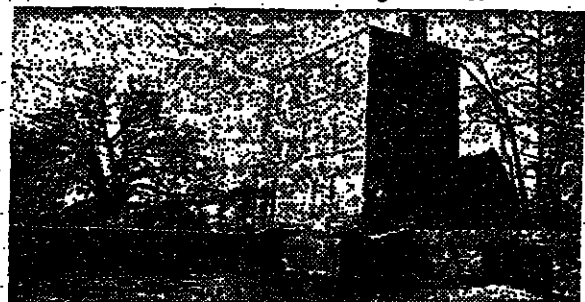
Canterbury Office.

(Ref. 8CD089)

Preliminary Announcement

HUNTS/LINCS

7 miles East of Stamford, Peterborough 10 miles.



LOLHAM MILL, WEST DEERING
An Attractive Georgian Mill House in its own park and riverside setting.
together with Farmbuildings. Pair of Semi-Detached Cottages and 128 Acres of good quality Agricultural land.
ABOUT 128 ACRES
AUCTION IN THE SUMMER (unless previously sold)
London Office and Grantham Office. (Ref. 4AB554)

WEST SUSSEX

Between Petworth and Chichester.

A FIRST CLASS AGRICULTURAL ESTATE.

Ideal for Investment and Capital Appreciation.

Good Arable and Grass Land capable of high corn yields

and profitable stock rearing.

18th Century House, 4 Cottages and Buildings.

Negotiations in hand with Planning Authority for

NEW FARMHOUSE AND BUILDINGS.

ABOUT 812 ACRES.

Freehold with Vacant Possession.

London and Lewes Offices. (Ref. 6BB586)

DEVON

AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT.

Sale and Leaseback to first class tenants on full repairing

lease. Extremely well equipped with Modernised

Farmhouse, Staff Cottage. Modern dairy buildings for

150 cows and followers.

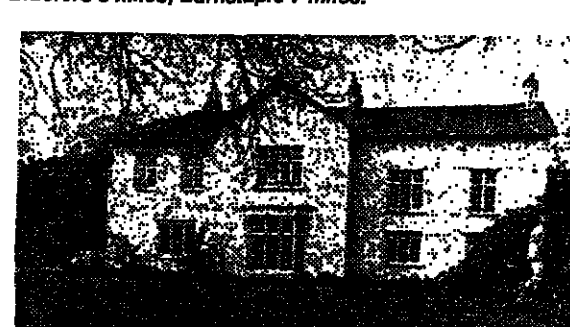
283 ACRES Producing £5,000 per annum.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.

Salisbury Office. (7AB1012)

NORTH DEVON

Bideford 3 miles, Barnstaple 7 miles.



WEBBERY, ALVERDISCOTT, NR. NEWTON TRACEY
A Small Estate with Early 19th Century Manor House in an area of great natural beauty.
Reception Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, 8 Bedrooms, Dressing Room, 3 Bathrooms, Oil Central Heating. Extensive Garaging and Outbuildings. Easily maintained gardens. Valuable Pasture and Woodland. Staff Cottage.
About 47 Acres (4.75 acres let on agricultural tenancy).
AUCTION ON 12th JULY (unless previously sold)
Joint Auctioneers: Price, Ogden and Stubbs.
Tel. Barnstaple 4388/9 and Strutt & Parker, Salisbury Office. (Ref. 7AB1182)

Preliminary Announcement

NORTH DURHAM

4 miles South West of Lanchester, Durham City 18 miles.

SAW MILL WOOD, Near LANCHESTER
A VALUABLE BLOCK OF WOODLAND AND AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT LAND.

184 Acres Mixed Conifers 10 to 45 years old.

Well kept. With Possession.

54 Acres of Agricultural Land let at £177.50 p.a.

rent last reviewed 1965.

ABOUT 215 ACRES.

For Sale by Private Treaty.

Joint Sole Agents: Storey, Sons and Parker,

Newcastle upon Tyne, and

Strutt & Parker, London Office and Grantham Office.

(Ref. 4AA573)

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND

Elgin 22 miles, Aberdeen 49 miles.

A COMPACT AGRICULTURAL UNIT OF THREE FARMS
Two farms totalling 519 Acres with Farmhouse and Steadings and Three Cottages for conversion. With Vacant Possession.

Let Farm of 107 acres producing £960 p.a.

ABOUT 628 ACRES.

For Sale Privately As A Whole or in 7 Lots.

Joint Agents: Knight Frank & Rutley. Tel. 031 225 7105.

and Strutt & Parker, Edinburgh Office. (Ref. 3AB637)

Preliminary Announcement

ORKNEY ISLANDS

Stronsay, 40 miles from the mainland of Scotland,

Kirkwall 18 miles.

A FINE ARABLE AND STOCK FARM

Farmhouse, 2 Modernised Cottages, 2 Derelict Cottages.

Extensive Range of Farmbuildings.

Approximately 6,000 yards of Shoreline.

ABOUT 495 ACRES

For Sale by Private Treaty.

Edinburgh Office. (Ref. 4BB602)

FISHING RIGHTS

Preliminary Announcements

UPPER WYE

UPPER GLANWYE BEAT, BUILTH WELLS.

VALUABLE SALMON FISHING.

800 yards Single Bank, 1,500 Double Bank.

Site for Hut. Average 49 Salmon.

AUCTION ON 13th JULY, 1974 (unless previously sold).

Joint Auctioneers: Woosnam and Tyler, Builth Wells,

Tel. 3248, and

Strutt & Parker, London and Grantham Offices.

(Ref. 4AA605)

RIVER TAW

Barnstaple 8 miles, Exeter 32 miles.

VALUABLE SALMON FISHING.

1,200 yards Double Bank and 250 yards Single Bank.

Two Fishing Huts. Average 33 Salmon. Numerous Sea Trout

FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless previously sold).

London, Salisbury and Grantham Offices. (Ref. 4AA606)

London Office: 13 Hill Street, Berkeley Square, London W1X 8DL. Tel.: 01-629 7282

CANTERBURY
8 Rose Lane,
Tel: (0227) 51123

CHELMSFORD
Coval Hall,
Tel: (0245) 58201

EDINBURGH
26 Walker Street,
Tel: 031-226 7431

GRANTHAM
55 High Street,
Tel: (0476) 5886

IPSWICH
11 Museum Street,
Tel: (0473) 214841

LEWES
201 High Street,
Tel: (07916) 5411

SALISBURY
41 Milford Street,
Tel: (0722) 28741

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA
14 Clifftown Road,
Tel: (0702) 40117

Cluttons

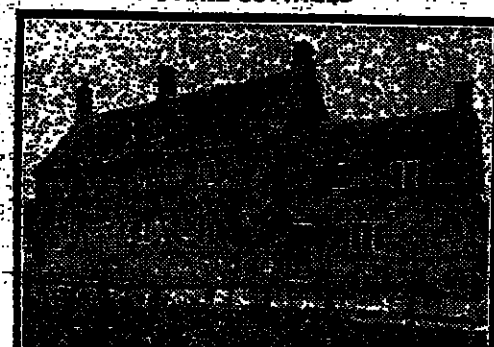
Mayfair: 74 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DD (01 491 2768)
 Bath: 9 Edgar Buildings, George Street, Bath BA1 2EE (64214)
 Wells: 10 New Street, Wells, Somerset, BA5 2LG (78012)
 Canterbury: 17 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3AQ (51155)
 Oxfordshire: 23 Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2NP (46611)
 Harrogate: Osborne House, 20 Victoria Avenue, Harrogate, HG1 5QY (64251)

OXFORDSHIRE IFFLEY



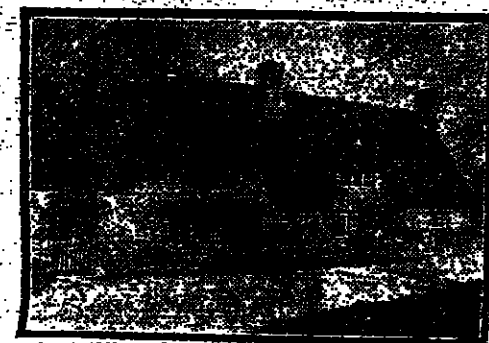
DISTINCTIVE DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCE
 2 miles from centre of Oxford. 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, etc. Heated swimming pool. Large garage. 1 acre. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Oxford office.

OXFORDSHIRE KELMSCOT



PAIR OF FINE STONE COTTAGES
 Ideal for conversion to single dwelling. Each property has sitting room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, etc. Garden. FOR SALE BY AUCTION 3rd July.
 Details from Oxford office.

OXFORDSHIRE BUCKLAND



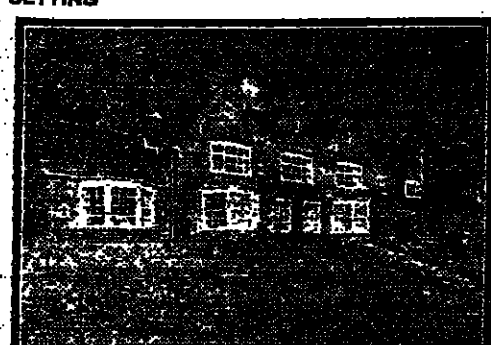
DELIGHTFUL PAIR OF THATCHED COTTAGES
 Ideal for modernisation, each cottage comprises sitting room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, garden. FOR SALE BY AUCTION 3rd July.
 Joint agents: Hobbs & Chambers, Market Place, Faringdon, Berks. (20355)
 Details from Oxford office.

NORTH SOMERSET SHIPHAM



MODERNISED EDWARDIAN COUNTRY HOUSE
 4 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Staff cottage. Stabling, garages. About 16 acres. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Joint agents: Alton Dawes & Hoddell, 6 Ways, Clevedon, Som. (4343)
 Details from Bath office.

SURREY FARNHAM



A FINE EDWARDIAN HOUSE IN SECLUDED SETTING
 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, etc. Self-contained flat comprising sitting room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen. Hard tennis court. Small paddock. In all about 4.3 acres. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Joint agents: Messenger May & Baverstock, 4 Castle Street, Farnham, Surrey. (24844)
 Details from Mayfair office.

BERKSHIRE COOKHAM DEAN



PLEASANT MODERN HOUSE IN SOUGHT-AFTER VILLAGE
 3 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, etc. Central heating. Garage. Garden. £52,000 FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Joint agents: Giddy & Giddy, 11-13 Church Street, Maidenhead. (22131)
 Details from Mayfair office.

SOMERSET Near FROME



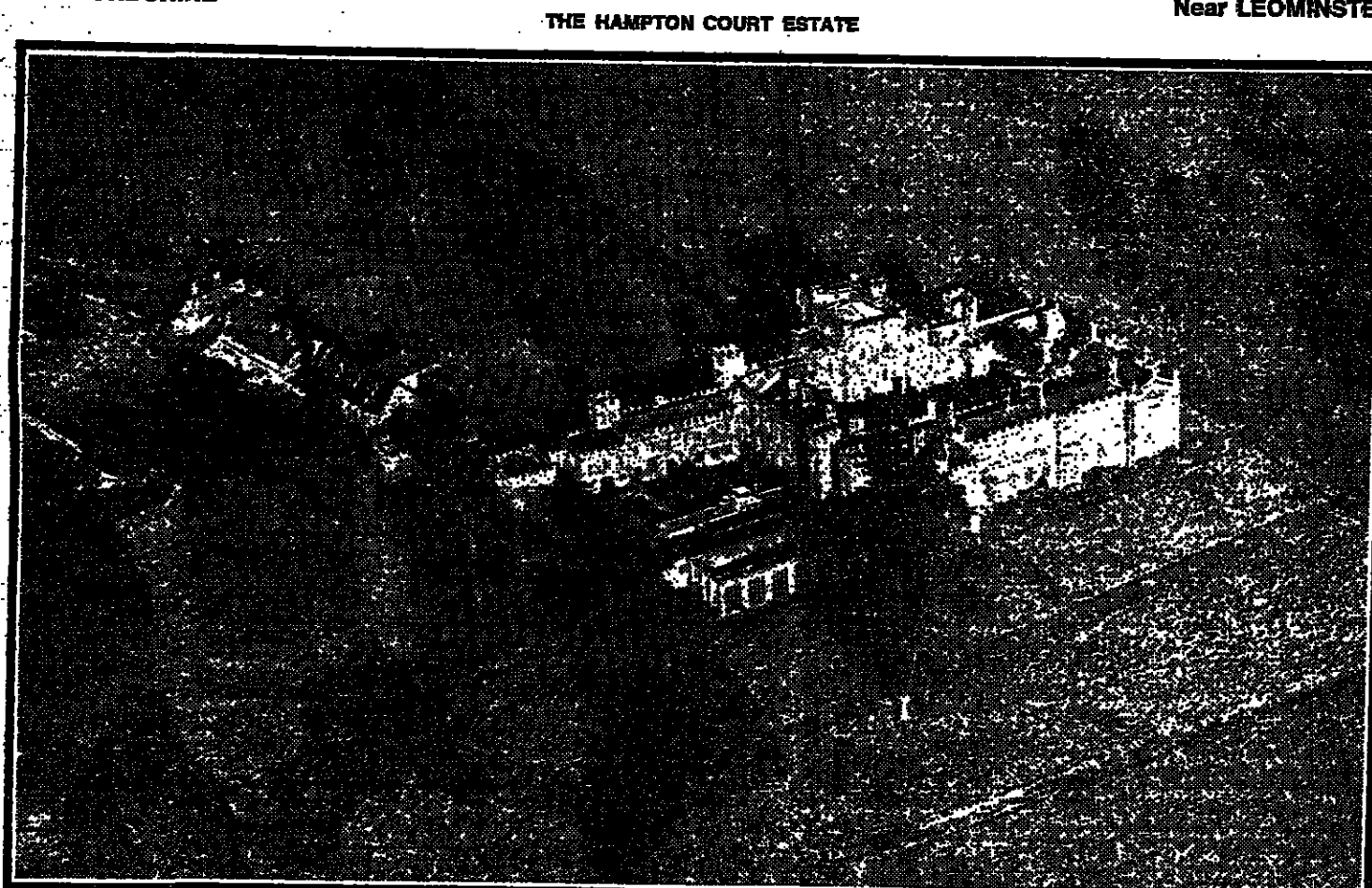
EARLY 19TH CENTURY COUNTRY HOUSE
 3 reception rooms, kitchen, 5 main bedrooms. Central heating. Additional accommodation of 2 living rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Double garage. Mature garden. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Bath office.

KENT Near FAVERSHAM



SMALL MANOR HOUSE PRINCIPALLY OF THE TUDOR PERIOD
 4 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Stable, paddock. About 2.76 acres. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Canterbury office.

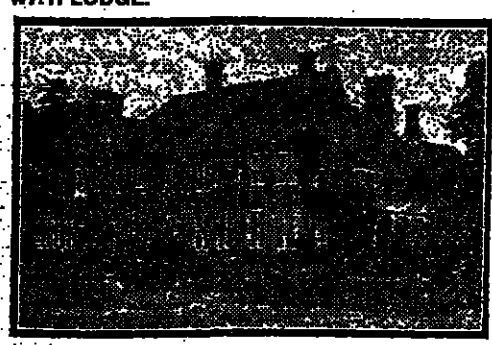
HEREFORDSHIRE



A fine Agricultural Investment and Sporting Estate
 IN ALL 1,908 ACRES PRODUCING £18,242 PER ANNUM

With vacant possession: Hampton Court House, 5 cottages, 528 acres of mainly dedicated woodlands and the sporting over the whole estate including fishing in the River Lugg. Subject to tenancy: 3 excellent stock and arable farms totaling 1,344 ACRES and 2 houses and 1 cottage let separately. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Mayfair office.

SUFFOLK COAST SAKMUNDHAM



SUBSTANTIAL EDWARDIAN MANSION WITH LODGE
 Set in 19½ acres and within sight of the A12 coast road. Planning consent for hotel use.
 FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Mayfair office.

SOMERSET SOUTH STOKE



AN APPEALING FAMILY HOUSE PART DATING FROM 18TH CENTURY
 Requiring some modernisation. Hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Coach house. 1 acre. FOR SALE BY AUCTION in July.
 Details from Bath office.

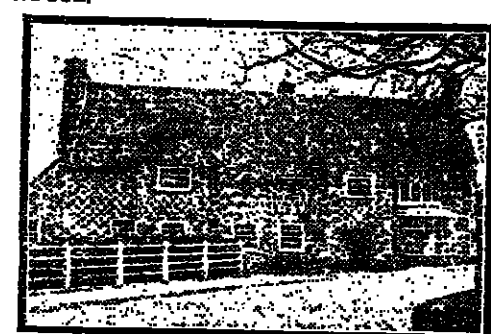
WYLYE VALLEY South Wiltshire

1,003 ACRE ARABLE AND STOCK FARM
 for sale on leaseback arrangement
 An excellent agricultural investment
 Farmhouse, 7 cottages, ranges of buildings for dairy, beef and corn units.
 Rent: £18,000 per annum.
 FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY
 Details from Wells office.

SOMERSET CASTLE CARY

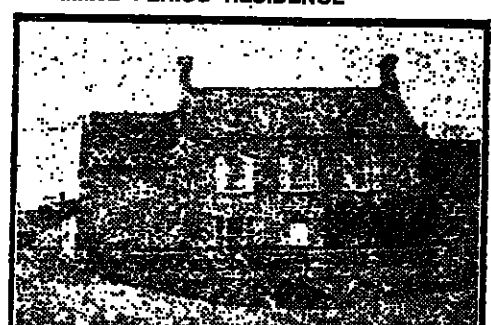
AN ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE in rural surroundings with over 5 acres.
 Hall, 3 reception rooms, study, kitchen, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Garages. Stabling. Garden and Paddock.
 FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Wells office.

KENT WICKHAMBEAUX



OUTSTANDING EARLY MEDIEVAL MANOR HOUSE
 3 reception rooms, kitchen, sun lounge, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 attic rooms. Coach house, stable, outbuildings. Garden and grounds extending to about 1.22 acres. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Canterbury office.

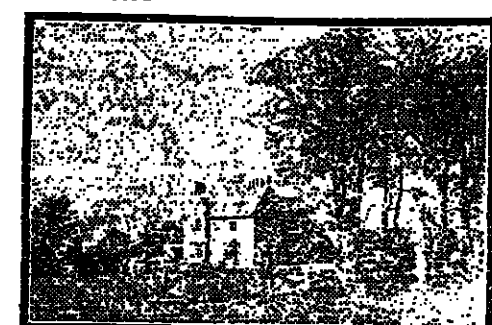
WILTSHIRE Between BATH & BRADFORD-ON-AVON



CHARMING PERIOD RESIDENCE
 3 reception rooms, kitchen, 4 main bedrooms, bathroom, 2 attic rooms. Coach house, loose box, garage. Self-contained cottage. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Joint agents: Coward James & Co., 14 New Bond Street, Bath. (65721)
 Details from Bath office.

Near LEOMINSTER

SOMERSET Near WELLS



SPACIOUS COUNTRY HOUSE DIVIDED INTO 4 FLATS
 Hall, 4 reception rooms, etc. 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, cellar. Self-contained flat. Suitable for family occupation. 8½ acres. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Joint agents: Chamberlain Bros. & Edwards, 68 High Street, Shepton Mallet.
 Details from Wells office.

SOMERSET FARLEIGH HUNGERFORD



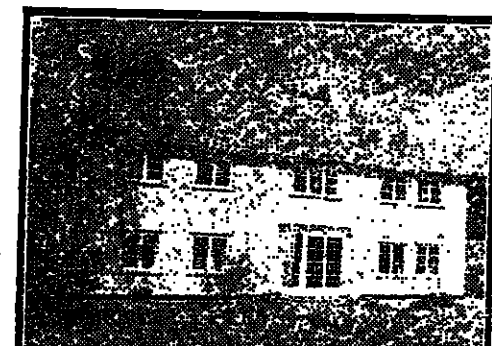
PAIR OF CHARMING STONE COTTAGES
 Ideal for conversion to 4/5 bedroom house. Mains water and electricity. Septic tank drainage. 1 acre. FOR SALE BY AUCTION 13th June.
 Details from Bath office.

WILTSHIRE Between BATH & BRADFORD-ON-AVON



OUTSTANDING PERIOD HOUSE
 3 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Cottage converted into 2 self-contained flats. 1½ acres, including VALUABLE BUILDING SITE with planning permission. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Joint agents: Pritchard & Co., 11 Quiet Street, Bath. (6476)
 Details from Bath office.

SOMERSET WELLS



ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE BUILT IN 1968
 On the outskirts of the City. Hall, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. 1 acre garden. Garages, stabling. Self-contained cottage. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Wells office.

SOMERSET WELLS



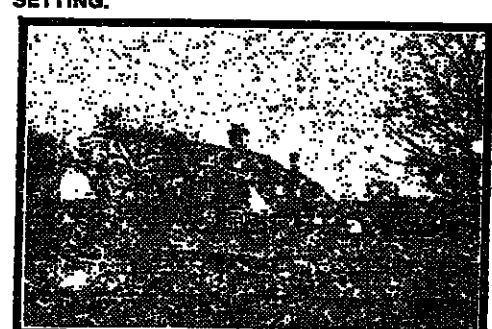
BEAUTIFUL GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE BY THE MENDIPS
 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, kitchen, attic rooms, cellar. Central heating. Gardens and parkland of over 21 acres. Tennis court, stabling lodge. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Wells office.

SOMERSET COMBE HAY



17TH CENTURY FAMILY HOUSE
 3 reception rooms, kitchen with oil-fired Aga, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. Garage. Outbuildings. Garden of 2 acres. FOR SALE BY AUCTION 3rd July.
 Details from Bath office.

KENT HILDENBOROUGH



ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE IN SUPERB SETTING
 Hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Excellent stables, workshops and outbuildings. Garden and paddock. In all about 14 acres. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Mayfair office.

HAMPSHIRE BASING



DELIGHTFUL 17TH CENTURY FARMHOUSE
 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. Good outbuildings. Lovely garden. Together with 6 VALUABLE BUILDING PLOTS. In all 2.058 acres. FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Mayfair office.

NORTH OXFORD

Close to University Parks and City Centre
SPLendid DETACHED VICTORIAN HOUSE in first class residential area. In need of modernisation. 7 bedrooms, 4 reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom, cellar. Freehold.
 FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.
 Details from Oxford office.

Women's Appointments also on page 37

SECRETARIAL

PA/SECRETARY TO MARKETING MANAGER

An experienced, efficient Secretary with good technical skills is required to assist our Group Marketing Manager, Technical Services Department. Candidates must be able to accept responsibility and to use their own initiative and a medical background would be an advantage, but is not essential. We are a multi-million international pharmaceutical company. Salary negotiable around £2,000. Annual salary reviews. Hours 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Four weeks holiday. Subsidised staff restaurant. Please contact Mrs. G. Smith, Personnel Officer, The Wellcome Foundation Limited, 183 Euston Road, London, N.W.1. Tel: 01-387 4477.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY URGENTLY NEEDED FOR MANAGING DIRECTOR

OF FAST-EXPANDING MERCHANT BANK

Excellent shorthand and typing skills required, must be capable and ready to take responsibility. Varied and interesting work with plenty of client contact. Friendly informal working atmosphere in luxury Mayfair house. Generous holidays and excellent salary for the right girl.

Please ring Joy Hill 493 6416

BANK OF LONDON AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

DEDICATED YOUNG SECRETARY SHORTHAND TYPIST

Required urgently for Director of major property development near the Tower of London.

An exciting project and an interesting job carrying a good salary plus LV's. Ring 709 9100 now and ask Beverley Rouse for further details.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Leading international agency, currently looking for a secretary (18 phs) to assist two young to ahead executives. Chance to attend press receptions and meet people. Informal atmosphere.

One hour 'shorthand time' weekly. Staff discount. Ring Valerie Pickett for further details. 01-262 3424

SECRETARY

Good typing speed and shorthand or audio experience: an interesting position for a lady with initiative and enthusiasm; a generous salary, plus fringe benefits will be offered to a suitable applicant. Please telephone 01-499 0081, ext 28 for interview.

PRIVATE SECRETARY

£1,700+ p.a. with car required for Senior Director of print and packaging company. Apply now by telephoning or writing to: JEFFERSON SMURIT GROUP LTD, 194a St. George's, SW1X 9AX. 01-235 1168.

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Young efficient attractive Secretary for young Senior Executive in Belgrave. Must be reliable and resourceful. Salary £1,500 p.a. over 4 weeks holiday per year. Be able to start June 1st. Reply immediately to Box 111 D. The Times, giving phone number for appointment.

Three Young Doctors

Secretary/typist with attractive, intelligent personality to work with their friendly, successful group practice in Kensington. Salary £1,850, 4 weeks holiday. Phone: 589 5328

SECRETARY/GIRL

FRIDAY Creative atmosphere design group in W.1. Salary £1,200. Ring David Lock, 437 3244, or 439 1031.

WORK IN A MADHOUSE

Would you like a varied and interesting job? Are you intelligent with initiative and personality? Can you type and take shorthand? Would you like to work for a dynamic, friendly company in the City? If so, telephone: Sally Collins on 281 6767.

SECRETARIES

for Germany

We require several English speaking Secretaries to join our international ethical pharmaceutical company based in Frankfurt (Main), Germany. A good education and sound secretarial skills are essential as is at least a reasonable degree of spoken fluency in German. A knowledge of German shorthand would be useful but is not essential. We offer good salaries plus first class benefits and an excellent working environment. Interviews will be held in London.

Please apply to—

Mrs. M. G. Hannay, Personnel Officer, Pharmaceutical Division, Hoechst UK Limited, Hoechst House, Salisbury Road, Hounslow, Middlesex. Tel: 01-750 7712

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY Consulting Engineers

An international firm of Consulting Engineers is seeking a secretary to a principal of its Geotechnics Division. The Division is engaged in all aspects of the earth science and operates extensively both in the United Kingdom and overseas. Her secretarial duties will include arrangements of appointments, travel, personal and confidential filing and will liaise with clients as well as typing of general correspondence and reports.

The successful applicant must have good shorthand and typing speeds and must be able to work on her own initiative. She should be unflappable and enthusiastic and willing to grasp a share of the general secretarial work of the Division if and when the need arises. The preferred age range is 23-32; IBM Executive typewriter, generous salary, LV's, profit sharing scheme and free life insurance.

Apply in writing quoting reference FGB to

OVE ARUP & PARTNERS

13 Fitzroy Street, London, W1P 6BQ.

Secretary for Young Design Company in W.1

To work in our Graphic Department with a dozen demanding male designers. Mid 20s preferred.

An interesting job including running a small library, research on new products, typing their letters, and generally helping to run the department smoothly.

Initiative and energy more important than top secretarial skills. Knowledge of languages an advantage as we operate on an international scale. Salary £2,000 plus LV's and 4 weeks' holiday. This year's holiday arrangements honoured.

Telephone Betty Burton on 01-580 8465

ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Applications are invited for the following posts:—

1. PERSONAL SECRETARY

to the Professor of Epidemiology (ref. 2/10/74)

Both posts require good secretarial skills and offer involvement in the clinical, research and teaching activities of the Department of Medicine. Starting salary will be in range up to £2,014 per annum (net review) plus 10% superannuation and 4 weeks' annual leave. R.A.S. (London) Hospital, Du Cane Road, London W12 0BS quoting the appropriate ref.

2. PERSONAL SECRETARY

to the Professor of Clinical Epidemiology (ref. 2/10/74)

Both posts require good secretarial skills and offer involvement in the clinical, research and teaching activities of the Department of Medicine. Starting salary will be in range up to £2,014 per annum (net review) plus 10% superannuation and 4 weeks' annual leave. R.A.S. (London) Hospital, Du Cane Road, London W12 0BS quoting the appropriate ref.

SENIOR SECRETARIES LIMITED

173 New Bond Street, W1P 9PB

01-499 0092

A Wise Woman Knows...

that Joyce Guinness Teague, long and short hand, typist and able to take responsibility. This position involves the complete organisation and co-ordination of the secretarial aspect of the Practice.

Please apply in writing to David Farquhar & Co., 110a Brunson Road, London N1 6TD. Tel No. 359 6131.

SECRETARY/P.A.

required by Editor of monthly international journal which is part of a well-known publishing group, near St. Paul's. Applicants should preferably be aged between 21-30 years and have good shorthand and typing skills. Salary in the region of £2,000 p.a.; subsidised staff restaurant, 4 weeks' annual holiday honoured this year. Apply with full curriculum vitae and details of availability to Box 2769 C, The Times.

SPECIALITY GIRL

£2,000

Are completely impartial for interesting and varied secretarial duties, no shorthand, working with West End Advertising Co. in modern office. Excellent opportunity to progress. Could suit City/Tyde. Please telephone 01-499 0081, ext 28 for interview.

INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY GROUP

P.A./SECRETARY

with experience at Director level. Friendly West End Company with luxurious office. Salary £2,000 plus LV's. Please phone ROSALIND, 466 5151.

BILINGUAL SECRETARY

Fluency in Spanish to start immediately S.W.1. Embassy office. Salary £1,800. Hours from 8.30-3.30 Monday to Friday. Please phone 235 0674.

PART-TIME SECRETARY

required immediately for small, friendly, established firm. Good salary, LV's, typing essential. Good salary (see last advertisement). Please phone 01-499 0081, ext 28 for interview.

CASE OFFICE SECRETARY

aged 30 to 35, with good education, ability and facility in composing and typing correspondence. Must be able to take responsibility, friendly office of 60-70 people. Salary around £2,000 plus LV's and 4 weeks' holiday. Apply Director, Lamps Pharmacy Services, 10 Hammersmith Broadway, London W6 7AF. Tel: 01-748 4058.

PROPERTY CO. W.I., looking for

Good promotional prospects for go-getter, £1,750. Tel: 01-750 7712

ALWAYS WIN AT MONOPOLY!

Hotel buyer needs large hotel for 4 well-known, established, profitable from her own office in busy City. Salary £2,000 plus LV's and 4 weeks' holiday. Please phone 01-499 0081, ext 28 for interview.

MONTE CARLO OR BUSY £2,000

for top secretary to work in the exclusive atmosphere of Mayfair. Salary £2,000 plus LV's and 4 weeks' holiday. Please phone 01-499 0081, ext 28 for interview.

SWEDISH BILINGUAL Secretary

for international executive of American firm. Salary £2,000 plus LV's and 4 weeks' holiday. Please phone 01-499 0081, ext 28 for interview.

TOP RATES for top hand

Secret. now—largest 730 1148/9.

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UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

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1. PERSONAL SECRETARY

to the Professor of Epidemiology (ref. 2/10/74)

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